January 8, 2009 Vol. 53, No. 1

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Jan. 15, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

APG 2008 CFC exceeds goal

The APG Combined Federal Campaign office announced that 2008 donations reached \$459,118.43. The office staff would like to thank all donors who supported the program.

The first event for the 2009 campaign will be an APG CFC Golf Tournament. Watch the APG News for details.

Blue Cross/Shield visits APG

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit APG 9 to 11:30 a.m., Jan. 13, in building 305, room 211 and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4520, Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, Edgewood Area, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, call Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Kirk closes for holiday

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed Jan. 19 for the Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday holiday.

Patients should plan accordingly for any medication needs.

For evenings, weekends and federal holidays, for routine medical assistance, call 410-278-1725. The Staff Duty Officer will coordinate with the Medical Officer of the Day and initiate a referral, if needed.

> Without authorization, See SHORTS, page 7

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Looking back on APG in 2008

Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

goking back on

YVONNE JOHNSON and RACHEL PONDER

APG News

Instead of simply highlighting events of the previous year, as the APG News has done in past year-in-review issues, this year looks back at things that were new and unique to Aberdeen Proving Ground in 2008.

For example, 2008 saw the first postings of employees, service members and their Fami-

the Traffic Alerts, APG 2012 banner and Bill Armstrong's Outdoor Journal in the APG News.

Ongoing construction projects brought planned base realignment and closure and enhanced use lease projects to the forefront as did organization relocations.

First time happenings in APG mainstays like the chapels, education and vouth programs, as well as health and environment impacted lies as well.

In addition, APG welcomed new leaders, and several individuals and organizations received recognition for extraordinary performance.

Due to space constraints this collection of firsts may not be all-encompassing but readers can visit the APG News archives at www. apgnews.apg.army.mil to research past issues of the newspaper. See pages 2, 8, 13, 14, 16 and 17.

emphasizes ' **Strength** like no o

Story by **GARY SHEFTICK** Army News Service

The Army launched three new nationally televised advertisements on Veterans Day with the theme "Strength like no other."

The new ads are part of a campaign that will further extend the "Army Strong" brand, according to Ed Walters, chief marketing officer for Department of the Army. The campaign will eventually include four 30-second ads and a 60-second "anthem" spot that will air on ESPN, MTV and the Speed channel.

The campaign includes an NFL salute to the troops, actually produced by the National Football League, that began airing during network games. The campaign will include 10 "influencer" TV spots



Photo courtesy of ACCESSIONS COMMAND

Actors practice negotiating a rope obstacle in a University of California, Los Angeles, classroom as part of the new ad "School" that is airing on ESPN, MTV and the Speed Channel.

that focus on parents, and it will include a number of special features on the GoArmy.com Web page.

"These new ads will show that there is truly no other place in the world to offer the experiences you will gain through service in the Army," Walters said. "Whether it is the latest technology you will encounter, the team you will work with, or the training you will receive, it will all lead to physi-

cal, mental and leadership strength like no other entity can provide.'

Since every Soldier today is essentially considered a recruiter, Col. Jon Dahms said it makes sense for all Soldiers to understand the new ad strategy.

"So when they talk to potential recruits, they can identify with what they are seeing and saying" in the new ads, said the chief of planning support for Army Public Affairs.

"A more informed internal audience makes the recruiting effort more likely to succeed," Dahms said.

The three ads that began airing Nov. 11 are titled: Team, School, and Company. "Team" will underscore the benefits of working on a team made up of heroes like no other, Walters said.

"School" will illustrate the only classroom in the world where someone will learn technology, strength and leadership skills all in one day, marketing officials said. The ad is actually filmed at the University of California, See STRENGTH, page 4

Army releases new training manual

Story by JOHN HARLOW TRADOC News Service

The Army released the new field manual FM 7-0, Training for Full Spectrum Operations, at the Training General Officer Steering Committee conference at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Dec. 15.

Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV. commanding general of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, introduced the new manual which replaces the 2002 edition of FM 7-0, Training

the Force. "Today's full-spectrum operations environment demands more from our men and women in uniform than ever before, and nothing is more important than training to ensure their success," Caldwell said. "This manual will have a direct impact on our Soldiers - codifying our current doctrine directly into training the full breadth and complexity of today's missions, to include offensive, defensive and stability operations.'

This is the first time the Army has synchronized the manuals for operations and training, officials said.

"Now is the right time



Photo by PHIL SUSSMAN

Sgt. Roy Moreland stands next to a fallen enemy combatant during a platoon-level situational training exercise Nov. 3, as part of the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division's preparation for deployment

manual," said Brig. Gen. Robert B. Abrams, director of the Combined Arms Center-Training. "We've to release the new training been at war a little over six

years, and our last training manual was published just after 9/11. A lot has changed since then. The

See MANUAL, page 6

Commentary: Cyber security can be gone in a flash; no thumb drives

Story by **ED BEEMER**

Army News Service

[Last month], Soldiers were singing, "all I want from Santa is my thumb drive back."

This sad song could have been prevented.

The recent decision to ban thumb drives and other flash memory products from military computers was based on a technical vulnerability and the situation was made worse by human error and poor judgment.

Not having thumb drives at our dispos-

al is a major headache, as some are finding out. The current situation exists because complacency and familiarity had set in.

The protections available on government-issued drives were being bypassed frequently just to save a few seconds of effort.

Unfortunately, the use of personal drives in government computers contributed to opening the door for the introduction of potentially dangerous code.

Notably, it was a general threat, not some insidious super virus targeting only the U.S. military.

See SECURITY, page 6

RDECOM NCOs gain, share insight on technology at NTC

RDECOM

Training at Fort Irwin's National Training Center in California's Mojave Desert is normally unit focused and time driven.

For the noncommissioned officers from the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, their visit was a unique NCO professional development experience. The NCOs gave their promise to NTC officials to take issues with equipment back to the researchers and developers and in return gained feedback from Soldiers using the equipment.

"Help us in training them [Soldiers training at the NTC] and putting them into a position for success," said Command Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Moore, NTC Command Sgt. Major, NTC and Fort Irwin to the visiting NCOs. "If someone out there brings you a piece of equipment and says 'Hey, will this work?' or 'Where do we need to go?' We need you to help us think out of the box."

According to Moore it's critical for RDECOM Soldiers to come out and inform his staff on any new technology available but it's equally as important for them to see how it is being used.

"It gives them a basis so that when they go back to their labs they have something they can directly link it to as they try to explain it to an engineer or scientist how the equipment is going to be used and if it will or will not work," Moore said.

'One of the benefits of bringing our NCOs to the NTC is for them to see how our research and development project transitions from the labs and into the hands of our Warfighters," said RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Hector G. Marin. "This experience will help their effectiveness in obtaining feedback from Soldiers and NCOs of the technology in the field prior to and as the Warfighter prepares to deploy.

'In addition, the NCOs can take back the feedback from the staff here at the NTC to their centers and laboratories so that we can continue to improve the technologies that we have out here at the moment," Marin

And there should always be available feedback as new technologies are introduced on a regular basis to troops preparing for a rotation at the NTC.

"The most challenging aspect of introducing the technology is the training and maintenance." said Maj. Brian Gruchacz, RDECOM science and technology officer stationed at the NTC. "On the maintenance side, if something new is going to come out here it can't be a drive by fielding. The second something breaks on it, it loses all of its value and will no longer be used. So whenever we get new technology here we really need to have the technicians here as well to make sure the repair and feedback happens

See TECHNOLOGY, page 5



HENRY KEARNEY Fort Monmouth

A new Army Reserve Troop Program Unit, a subordinate unit of the newly established Army Reserve Sustainment Command, will be stood up at CECOM Life Cycle Management Command headquarters at Fort Monmouth this year. It eventually will relocate to Aberdeen Proving Ground with the move of the CECOM LCMC and Army Team C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) mission, said Lt. Col. Von George, senior operations officer of the new detachment.

The TPU, a detachment fighters during this critical of the ARSC's 377th Theater Sustainment Command, will consist of Drilling Individual Mobilization Augmentees as well as Individual Ready Reservists and former Army National Guard Soldiers. It will be fully activated at Fort Monmouth by October 2009.

With a total of 48 authorizations, the new unit "will offer opportunities for promotion to higher rank and retirement points for Reservists in such specialties as research and acquisition, counter-intelligence, JAG [Judge Advocate General] and public affairs," George said. "This is also an

time in our nation's history," he added.

Although most of the slots in the detachment will be company and field grade officer positions, there are several NCO positions, George said.

"We're encouraging prior service personnel to explore the opportunities within the Army Reserve Sustainment Command to renew their service," he said. "Civilians who are non-prior service personnel may also find that now is the time to begin serving their command organization in uniform as well as in their civilian jobs."

George stressed there opportunity to better serve is a potential for direct our Army and our War- commissions to officer means greater travel and the operational con-

ranks. Those interested in budget support for Reservexploring the possibility of a direct commission should contact George (e-mail: von.george@ us.army.mil) or a recruiter. The unit identification code for the new detachment is W8DJ08.

Reservists assigned to the CECOM LCMC detachment will be authorized to participate in a total of 48 unit training assemblies (or battle assemblies) annually and will be authorized between 14 and 29 days of Annual Training, a significant increase over the drills and AT authorized for DIMAs not affiliated with TPUs.

Being part of a larger

ists in the unit as well as additional training opportunities and more tightly managed training. George explained.

The overall mission of the ARSC, headquartered in Birmingham, Ala., and its subordinate commands such as the new TPU is to support the Army's sustained contingency operations and its transformation to the future force by providing a pool of trained and ready Army Reserve Soldiers, operational teams and detachments in support of logistics support unit and worldwide mission requirements.

It will consist of hun-TPU support structure also dreds of Soldiers under trol of the U.S. Army Materiel Command and under the administrative control of the 377th TSC. Belle Chasse, La., with subordinate elements stationed at various AMC; Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology; and Defense Contract Management Agency locations nationwide.

Reservists and Soldiers planning to retire from active duty or civilians interested in serving in the new TPU should contact George via e-mail at the above address, or call Jessica Rogers or Staff Sgt. Shannon Smith at the ARSC headquarters in Birmingham, 205-795-1935 or 205-795-1936.

TU's AIT program to help keep BRAC on track in Harford County \$90,000 grant enables TU to offer M.S. in Applied Information Technology at HEAT Center

STUART ZANG Towson University

Maryland Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown designated five areas BRAC [2005 Base Realignment and Closure Act] zones and awarded \$2 million in grants to 16 colleges and universities under the BRAC Higher Education Investment Fund Dec. 15.

University Towson received \$150,990, including \$90,990 to enable it to offer the Master of Science in Applied Information Technology at Harford County's HEAT Center. Pending regulatory approvals, the first class will begin in fall 2009.

Applied Information Technology is the study, design, development, implementation and support of computer-based information systems to address real-world problems. TU's M.S. in AIT program provides graduate-level education in information technology for students preparing to enter the high-tech work force and for those already in the work force seeking to update and enhance their skills.

"Many of the thousands of jobs transferring to the Aberdeen Proving Ground under BRAC require degrees in computer science, information technology management, telecommunications and computer education," said Michael O'Leary, TU's Center for Applied Information Technology director. "We've met with the Software Engineering Center, which is moving from Fort Monmouth the future, as several oth-[New Jersey] to APG, and their immediate needs include advanced graduate courses in information technology and computer science."

O'Leary said the SEC expects 25 percent of their 700-strong workforce to relocate to APG by the end of fiscal year 2009.

"From that group we expect ten to twelve students will enroll into the M.S. degree program in deen," O'Leary said.

the fall," he said, "but our cohorts will grow in er agencies requiring AIT training are also moving to APG.

"The BRAC Higher Education Investment Fund grant will allow TU to bring AIT education to a location that's convenient for the SEC personnel moving to Harford County, as well as offer it to the thousands of other military and civilian personnel coming to Aber-

The M.S. in AIT at the HEAT Center will include well-established graduate-level certifications in software engineering, information security and assurance, network technology, and information systems management in line with APG's current and future needs

For more information, visit the M.S. in AIT Web site, http://grad.towson. edu/program/master/aitms/ or contact O'Leary, CAIT@towson.edu 410-704-4757.



APG 2012/BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE/ENHANCED USE LEASE

- A Jan. 31 ribbon-cutting ceremony marks the first phase of employee movement from Fort Monmouth, N.J. to Aberdeen Proving Ground. Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Via, commander of the U.S. Communications and Electronics Command Life Cycle Management Command hosted the ceremony.
- Keith Easton, assistant secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment, hosts the ceremonial groundbreaking, March 17, for the \$477.5 million, nine-building complex that will house 5,000 members of Army organizations moving to Aberdeen Proving Ground from Fort Monmouth, N.J., under base realignment and closure.
- On April 17, the Directorate of Installation Operations announces major traffic changes due to upcoming construction in and around the new U.S. Army Command, Control, Communications, Intelligence and Reconnaissance, or Army Team C4ISR, campus adjacent to Boothby Hill Avenue.
- Opus East LLC announces May 22 that government contractor CACI signed a seven-year lease for the first building being developed at the Government and Technology Enterprise, or G.A.T.E. at APG under the terms of the EUL agreement.
- The announcement that the APG 2012 Web site located at http://apg2012.apg. army.mil/ is up and running appears in the June 19 issue. The APG 2012 Web site, which includes links to employment and business opportunities at APG and in Harford County, was the result of a collaborative effort between Syreeta Gross, communications coordinator with the Michael C. Fuhrman and Associates Planning and Consulting Company and Michael Graziano, a DOIM information technology specialist. The site design was started by Rob Czajowski, a contractor who moved to Fort Monmouth, N.J.
- More than 60 U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center employees gather for a ribbon cutting ceremony June 26 at APG's Woodpecker Park to celebrate the first Command and Control Directorate, C2D, operational facility at APG after moving from Fort Monmouth, N.J.
- Nineteen Army Team C4ISR, report for their first day of work at APG Aug. 18. The employees volunteered to be among the first to move to APG as a result of the implementation of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision.
- OPUS East LLC officially opens the first building in the G.A.T.E. campus during a ribbon cutting ceremony Dec. 4. The CACI Research and Development Labs, or CRa-DL, is the first building completed in the EUL development project on APG.



Photo by CONRAD JOHNSON

Former World War II-era buildings on APG undergo demolition as part of the first steps in implementing the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Congressional plan at the Army Team C4ISR Complex groundbreaking ceremony March 17.



Photo by MICHAEL ALLISON

Col. Augustus Owens, CECOM LCMC deputy commander, (Forward), left, conducts one of his "Fireside Chats" in front of the fireplace at the Gunpowder Club, one of the temporary locations for members of the Army Team C4ISR advance party of early volunteer workers in the Edgewood Area of APG.

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Edgewood Model Railroad Club goes full steam ahead by mixing history with new technology



Photo by DICK SCHWANKE

A train approaches a coal mining town built on the Edgewood Model Railroad Club's train display. The club displayed their impressive railway system to the public during an open house Dec. 28 on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground in building E-5173.

RACHEL PONDER APG News

Visitors at the Edgewood Model Railroad Club Open House Dec. 28 marveled at the impressive railway system that is built and operated by the club's members.

The club meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground in building E-5173, which formerly housed the locomotive shop for the railroad that once operated on the installation.

During the open house, the members showed off buildings and trains they created from kits and from scratch and the two- to three-tiered landscapes they

The club's railroad system is called the "Tidewater and Allegheny Railroad" which simulates a railroad from the 1960s.

Young and old alike look forward to visiting the model railroad open house every year during the holidays.

Children delight in the "magic" of the trains while adults are intrigued by the engineering and the science that makes the model changed as technology has railroad system possiblenot to mention the artistry and the historical knowledge that goes into building the railroad system.

"I like to think of it as an art form," said David Renard, who has been a member of the railroad club for 48 years, longer than any other member. "We create the scenery, the landscapes and the trees, and although the towns are fictional, we try to model the towns after real towns."

Renard said that one town for example, that is part of the model, is built like downtown Baltimore in the 1960s.

Renard said that although the "Tidewater and Allegheny Railroad" is a fictional railroad, the club's members strive to make the model look as accurate to the time



club member controlled a train during the open house.

Photo by RACHEL PONDER Brian Jenkins, a club member and a transportation management major who attends University of Maryland, adjusts a train. Each

period as possible.

"This is a hobby with so many facets to it." Renard said. "We spend a lot of time learning how railroads work and studying the history of that time period. Even though our railroad is fictitious, it is plausible."

Renard said that over the years the club has improved.

Currently, the club has computer software that creates train orders. The computer knows what trains, stations and products the railway has, and makes the orders tailored to the rail system. Each of the club members control a train, and communicate with each other by talking loudly across

Renard said that the club is planning to buy a wireless voice communication system, similar to walkie talkies, which will make

communicating with one

another much easier. "Frequent communication with one another is very important when doing this to make sure everything is going smoothly, and that we do not have any problems," he said.

A money donation from the APG Thrift Store will go towards buying the wireless voice communication system he said adding that he and the other club members really appreciate the opportunity to get more up-to-date equipment.

Brian Jenkins, a member of the club for three years and a transportation management major who attends the University of Maryland, said that he has learned valuable skills by being in the club.

Jenkins said that he took a model railroad class given by Renard when he was

See RAILROAD, page 7

Dear Editor:

The members of the Edgewood Model Railroad Club wish to publicly thank the staff and supporters of the Aberdeen Thrift Shop for the generous financial support extended to the club.

The December 28 open house at the club drew [more than] 100 visitors who enjoyed watching our model railroad display in action. Each of the members enjoys the opportunity to share our model building efforts with the visitors and discuss model railroading at all levels with young beginners and advanced craftsmen.

The financial contribution from the APG Thrift Shop and the publicity provided by the APG News personnel will enable us to create further improvements to the model railroad throughout the coming year.

David Renard Edgewood Model Railroad Club Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/Staff_Judge/index.html

continues protection of bald eagles

DICK WAKELING

Due to their remarkable recovery, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removed the bald eagle, the nation's symbol, from the Endangered Species Act's list of threatened species Aug. 8, 2007.

From a low of 417 nesting pairs in 1963 to an estimated 9,789 breeding pairs today, bald eagles no longer require protection under the ESA.

In order to ensure there is no significant change in their recovery, bald eagles will continue to be monitored for five years.

Currently, there are an estimated 400 breeding pairs in Maryland.

Aberdeen Proving Ground is host to a large number of both resident and migrant bald eagles. During the 2008 nesting season, APG identified 38 bald eagle breeding pairs which

produced 59 fledglings, up from 29 pairs and 42 fledglings the previous year.

tory Bird Treaty Act.

disturbing.

The MBTA is the federal law that commits the United States to carry out provisions in four international conventions with Canada, Mexico, Japan and Russia. The conventions protect migratory birds, such as bald and golden eagles, as an international resource.

In anticipation of the removal of bald eagles from ESA protection, the service recently modified its regulations implementing the BGEPA by establishing a regulatory definition of the term "disturb," a prohibited form of "take" under the act. To "disturb" means "to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle, 2) a decrease in its

Even though bald eagles are no longer afforded protection under the ESA, the eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Migra-

The BGEPA prohibits the "take" of bald or golden eagles without a permit. "Take" includes pursuing, shooting, shooting at, poisoning, wounding, killing, capturing, trapping, collecting, molesting or

> productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or 3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding

or sheltering behavior." Because of the ever increasing population of bald eagles at APG and changes to mission activities in recent years, an increase in bald eagle mortalities attributable to electric mid-line strikes mostly along APG's shorelines as well as a number of suspected nest failures has occurred. This prompted a biological assessment study by APG and initiation of a formal consultation



Photo by GEORGE "BART" ROBERTS, APG WILDLIFE & MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

process with the service to identify contributing factors to the mortalities and nest failures. As a result of these efforts, on Dec. 26, 2006, the service issued APG a Biological Opinion. The BO determined that it was reasonable to conclude that existing training missions at APG have probably caused a modification of eagle habitat usage and that this in turn may have contributed to increased bald eagle mortalities and nest failures.

In order to address impacts to APG's bald eagle population, the BO contains an Incidental Take Statement. The ITS provides reasonable and prudent measures, with implementing terms and conditions, as well as conservation recommendations to minimize the potential for "take" of bald eagles anticipated to occur as a result of ongoing mission and other activities.

Terms and conditions to be implemented include: burial of existing above ground power lines, complete installation of visual deterrents on power lines, maintaining a 500 meter protection buffer for known nests and communal roosts. maintaining minimum altitude limitations of aircraft used as part of shoreline training and conduct training so no direct line of sight target is aimed toward a bald eagle nest.

A number of studies will also be conducted including: video monitoring of select nest sites around pri-

mary target/training areas to evaluate potential to disturb bald eagles, laser impact study and a telemetry study to evaluate the movement and behavioral response of roosting bald eagles at known communal roosts.

Implementing these measures will allow APG to continue to engage in mission activities even though such activities may inadvertently result in additional bald eagle mortalities or nest failures.

The service also promulgated regulations to issue expedited permits authorizing the incidental take of bald eagles. Under the proposed regulations, the service will provide expedited permits to those activities already authorized to "take" bald eagles pursuant to existing ITSs. Under expedited permit procedures the same terms and conditions governing "take" of bald eagles under APG's existing ITS will most likely apply to a permit to "take" under the BGEPA. APG will obtain an expedited permit to "take" bald eagles under the BGEPA. APG also modified its Bald Eagle Management Plan to provide additional guidance to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to bald eagles.

APG and the service will continue to work in partnership to ensure the long-term recovery of the nation's symbol while conducting mission activities vital to the nation's defense.

Strength

From front page

Los Angeles and one shot portrays students negotiating four rope obstacles that span across a classroom.

"Company" will feature business leaders who began their careers in the Army. It will depict their military service filled with career opportunities and respect, Walters said.

A fourth 30-second ad, "Garage," will begin airing in early January and will show what it would be like to work in a garage that teaches everything from technology of robotics to working on jet engines.

The 60-second "anthem" spot will feature a variety of military occupational specialties to include an Army astronaut and a member of the 3rd U.S. Infantry, known as the "Old Guard." The underlying theme of the spot will be the Soldiers Creed, said an Army marketing official.

Each TV spot will drive people to the **GoArmy.com** Web site, Walters said. He explained that the site will be enhanced with Web films featuring Soldiers sharing their unique experiences going through basic training and living on an Army installation. There will also be an interactive feature in which Web browsers can ask Soldiers questions.

"The Army understands that today's future Soldiers live online," Walters said. "And an important part of our new campaign is to drive these interested people to GoArmy.com to experience the Army through the voices of our Soldiers. There is no better testament to what someone can achieve through the Army than our brave men and women already in uniform."

Real Army Soldiers were screen-tested for the new round of advertising to lend an authentic feel to the spots. In fact, two Soldiers have speaking roles in "Garage."

Additional advertising as part of the campaign is expected in early 2009, Walters said.

McCann Worldgroup, the U.S. Army's marketing agency of record, produced the campaign.

Butdoor

Commentary: Looking back

BILL ARMSTRONG APG Wildlife and Marine Law Enforcement Division

2008...Wow, where did it go? Seems like it was only yesterday that I was putting new string on my fishing pole and getting ready for the opening day of rockfish season.

Whoever it was that came up with "The older you get...the faster time passes" sure knew what they were talking about.

Don't get me wrong, I ain't fussing; all in all it was a pretty good year. Fact of the matter is, Aberdeen Proving Ground's natural resources program made some important strides in 2008, considering the fact that we are in the middle of a war, fighting for our very existence as a nation.

The way I see it, significant progress was made in 2008 with our efforts to protect the bald eagle nesting habitat here on the installation, and the satellite telemetry program we're doing with the College of William and Mary will likely be referred to as a milestone in future bald eagle management programs here at APG as it continues to provide some much needed scientific data on east coast eagle behavior and migratory patterns.

And on another note, from a species management perspective, it was very refreshing this year to observe the recovery of the deer herd in the Edgewood Area after the EHD outbreak we had in 2007, which literally decimated the population. Even though the

overall count is still down some, the remaining deer seem to be much healthier; and just guessing, I'd say that the weights are probably up some from what they were a couple of years ago. Probably within the next year or so the herd will probably bounce back to what it was prior to the outbreak, and if everything goes right, probably be in better shape health-wise.

From my outdoor perspective, I think we made some real progress here at APG in 2008, especially out on the water. I know the water quality in the Bay around APG sure seemed a whole lot better this year what with the return of the submerged aquatic vegetation (grasses) along the Bush

and Gunpowder shorelines. From those I've talked to, the recreational fishing and crabbing seemed to improve significantly as the year went along.

And from a natural resource law enforcement perspective it seems (cross your fingers) that we might've finally got a handle on the yellow perch poaching in our waters. It took almost forever but it looks as if the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the General Assembly finally pulled their head out of the sand and recognized the impact the poachers were having on the species during their annual spawning migrations. According to the information I've seen recently being put out by the DNR, there will be significant changes to both the recreational and the commercial regulations in the

coming year. So if you're into yellow perch fishing, you might want stay tuned to this station as I'll pass along the changes as soon as they're finalized by the DNR sometime in late January or February.

And finally, (knock on wood), it looks as though we may be making headway in providing some muchneeded outdoor recreational opportunities for our injured veterans returning from the war zone. It's still early, and we still have an awfully long way to go, but a couple of weeks ago a volunteer organization (Upper Chesapeake Sportsman's Association) was formed to explore ways that we might be able to share our APG outdoor experiences (hunting, fishing, photography, etc.) with our returning heroes. It's being done successfully in a number of other places, and there's no reason we can't put together a similar program here. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, give me a shout.

Like I said before, I ain't complaining. 2008 might have seemed like a blur but we're still here as a nation, and I for one, am damn proud of the work we do here at APG.

Happy New Year everyone, and may God bless America!

Last VX nerve agent munition eliminated from CMA's destruction stockpile

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency located at Aberdeen Proving Ground announced the destruction of all VX nerve agent munitions at its destruction sites on Dec. 24, 2008. This milestone occurred with the destruction of the last land mine containing VX at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Anniston, Ala.

"I commend Anniston and all CMA destruction sites on this extraordinary achievement. By destroying the VX agent at each of CMA's destruction sites, you have made the world a much safer place," said Conrad Whyne, director of

The ANCDF Site Project Manager Timothy K. Garrett, declared, "We have reached a truly remarkable milestone following more than five years of deliberate, but careful operations. All nerve agent munitions—those containing GB and those containing VX—have been safely processed."

CMA personnel and contractors have destroyed the VX nerve agent munitions at six disposal sites: Anniston, Ala.; Umatilla, Ore.; Newport, Ind.; Pine Bluff, Ark.; Tooele, Utah; and Johnston Island approximately 800 miles southwest of Hawaii.

CMA continues to safely and securely store the remaining VX in the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile at the Blue Grass Chemical Activity near Richmond, Ky. A separate Department of Defense organization, the U.S. Army Element Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, is charged with its destruction, with construction currently under way on a neutralization facilitv there.

Destruction of chemical weapons is complete at Newport, Ind., Aberdeen, Md., and Johnston Island. Operations continue at Tooele, Umatilla, Anniston, and Pine Bluff, CMA's remaining destruction sites. These sites are destroying or preparing to destroy blister agent and the only remaining nerve agent for CMA's destruction mission—GA (Tabun) at Tooele. In addition to Kentucky, CMA continues to safely store chemical agent munitions at Pueblo, Colo.

VX is the least volatile, but most potent of all chemical warfare agents. It attacks the nervous system, causing the muscles to convulse uncontrollably. Exposure can result in loss of consciousness, convulsions, paralysis, and respiratory failure resulting in death. The nerve agent works similarly to pesticide and was originally developed in the early 1950s.

The nation's entire original stockpile of approximately 4,400 tons of VX was produced at Newport Chemical Depot between 1961 and 1969. Newport's production facility was destroyed in 2006.

VX nerve agent was never used in combat by the United States.

"The elimination of this deadly chemical agent from each site's stockpile is a relief to the stockpile communities, and a sign of our commitment to other nations as we move one step closer to a safer world," Whyne said.

For more information, visit http://www.cma. army.mil/endofvx.aspx.

Technology

From front page

quick to ensure that piece of equipment gets back into the fight quickly.

"The other piece is the training. You're going to train the use but you are also going to have to train the observers/controllers they need to understand what the technology is supposed to do and how it is supposed to improve the Soldiers mission. We need to engage the units before they get here. When they get to NTC they hit the ground running,' Gruchacz said

Maintaining a relationship with the NTC staff is vital to ensuring a constant flow of feedback from the operators to the developers. According to Marin, this is where the NCO chain of command makes a big impact.

"One of the things we leave here with the NTC team is the trust and confidence in that any issues they have here, they can leave them with us and we can take them back and work on them," Marin said.

"It is equally beneficial to have the NTC leadership visit our labs. Everything we do at RDECOM applies here as our troops go through the training center. Touring the labs and research centers will be very helpful for them," he continued.

"As a Soldier for twenty-nine years, with two sons serving and a wife that's in the Army, it's amazing to see how we



Photo courtesy of RDECOM U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Command Sgt. Maj. Hector G. Marin discusses use of technology with an NTC senior NCO during a training exercise at the center.

been able to rapidly put equipment into the field, onto the backs and into the hands of Soldiers to help them be more survivable in combat," Moore said. "It all goes back to the

have over the last ten years noncommissioned officers, the officers, the civilians and the technicians [who] think through these problem sets, design something test it and get it into the field as quickly as we have to protect our Soldiers."

Community Notes

SATURDAY JANUARY 10

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit Krafty Survivors Relay for Life will be held at VFW Post 8185, located on Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open 6 p.m., bingo begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets cost \$12 per person for all paper cards. Extra packs cost \$5. Refreshments, door prizes and raffles will be available. This is a nonsmoking event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or Pat Job, 410-658-5628.

SUNDAY JANUARY 11 DUCK, DUCK,

GOOSE

Join Harford County birder Phil Powers, 9 to 11 a.m., on the pontoon

Manual

From front page

operational environment

has changed, and we now

have a force that is the

most combat-experienced

in the history of the coun-

try. There are many factors

that went into the need to

In 2008, the Army

update FM 7-0."

boat pier for a morn- allowed. ing of watching for winter waterfowl. This program is free for ages 10 through adult. Registration is required.

more information, to register or for directions to the Anita c. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SUNDAY JANUARY 18 ALL DAY BINGO

The American Legion Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold All Day Bingo, 12:30 p.m. Doors open 11 a.m., early bird games begin at 11:45 a.m. Cost is \$25 per person and includes 50 games (all paper cards), meal and free coffee. A 50/50 raffle will be held for early birds. No one under 18 years of age is allowed in the

Bingo Hall. No smoking is

released three important field manuals: ing guidance to prepare the Army to train the way it

• FM 3-0, Operations, changed the way the Army operates, with the focus of the Army being on offensive, defensive and stability operations.

• FM 3-07, Stability Operations, went into detail on how the Army will perform its mission when called upon as a stabilizing force.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

TUESDAY JANUARY 20 AUSA MEETING

The next meeting of the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army will be held noon, at the Clarion Hotel located on 980 Hospitality Way, Aberdeen. The guest speaker will be a Soldier provided through Operation Tribute to Freedom who will share his personal Army story, including experiences serving in theater. This is a great opportunity to hear direct feedback from a recently deployed Soldier and learn how to better support Soldiers. Registration and greetings take place 11:30 a.m.

Meetings are open to non-members as well as members. The cost is \$18 (cash or check only) and

• FM 7-0 provides train-

"FM 7-0 is almost

entirely driven by FM 3-0,"

Abrams said. "This is the

first time in recent doctri-

nal history that our Army's

capstone operations manual

FM 3-0 has been at the fore-

front of our training manu-

al. They have been related

before, and FM 7-0 has

embraced the operational concepts in some degree or

another, but in this particu-

lar case, the starting of FM

7-0 was about six months

have been nested from the

beginning so that for the first

time, all the operational con-

cepts and the most important

concept, that we are a full-

spectrum Army, means that

"The two writing teams

behind FM 3-0.

will fight.

registration is on a "first come" basis.

RSVP to Chrissy, e-mail cmb@orsacorp.com.

SATURDAY JANUARY 24

TEXAS HOLD'EM

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, invites the public to a night of Texas Hold'em. The first game starts at 2 p.m., the second game starts at 7 p.m. Register by 1 p.m. with a \$50 buy in. First-come, first-served. A cash bar and food will be available.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 **BRAC JOB FAIR**

CECOM LCMC and Army Team C4ISR will hold a BRAC Job Fair 10 a.m.

offense, defense and stability operations are our core concepts as an Army," Abrams continued. "These concepts are now nested throughout our training manual so that we train to be a full-spectrum Army, not just in name, but in reality."

FM 7-0 challenges leaders to train as they will fight - train as a full-spectrum force, but not lose sight of the first priority of the Army, which is to fight and win the nation's wars.

FM 7-0 sets out to change the Army mindset. The manual states that the Army cannot return to its pre-9/11 focus of training for offensive and defensive operations in major combat operations. Army leaders must think differently about training and leader development in an Army that must be capable of conducting simultaneous offense, defense and stability or civil-support operations.

includes lunch. Official to 4 p.m. at the Harford Community College Chesapeake Center, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel

> Recruitment will be for government positions at Aberdeen Proving Ground including but not limited to budget analyst, computer scientist, contract specialist, engineer, logistics manager, management analyst, operations research analyst and accountant, program analyst and program manager.

> Registration at www. swnetwork.org is required in order to attend.

> For more information, call 410-939-4240.

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 22 WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION FUND

The Maryland Military **Organizations Committee** will host a bull and oys-

The manual's four chap-

ters address the breadth

and depth of Army training

concepts - the "what" of

Army training. The Web-

based Army Training Net-

work addresses the "how"

of Army training. It pro-

vides examples of concepts

in FM 7-0: training lessons,

examples and best practic-

es for implementing the 7-

0 concepts; and solutions

technologies and leverag-

ing the power of the Web.

We are going to take what

has been previously pub-

lished in FM 7-1, Battle

Focused Training, and we're

going to take those concepts

and put them on the Web

as the Army Training Net-

work," said Abrams, "It is

going to have the same for-

mat and same fundamen-

tals you would see in FM

7-1 in terms of techniques

for conduct of training man-

agement. What we want to

"We are using emerging

to training challenges.

ter roast, 1 p.m., at Tall Cedars Hall located on 2501 Putty Hill Ave., Baltimore.

Donations cost \$35 per person, or \$320 per table of 10 if purchased by Jan. 20. Cost includes music, dancing, silent auction, wheels and instant bingo and raffles. Make checks payable to: MDNG Foundation, Incorporated. All proceeds will benefit a Welcome Home Celebration Fund for deployed Maryland National Guard units.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Lisa Mitchell, 410-576-6037 (office), 410-877-3896 (home) or retired Col. Bill Pulket, 410-436-6571 (office), 410-256-5329 (home).

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at

www.apgnews.apg.army. mil under Community *Notes.*)

show with the power of the

Web is that we can get constant updates from the field and input on best practices."

The operational concept requires the Army to be ready to conduct simultaneous offense, defense and stability or civil-support operations anywhere along the spectrum of conflict, from general war to stable peace.

FM 7-0 is designed to help develop an expeditionary Army, composed of Soldiers and civilians, experienced and knowledgeable enough to be comfortable with operating anywhere along the spectrum of conflict in any type of operation, under any conditions, TRA-DOC officials said. They said its principles and concepts are intended to produce agile leaders who can rapidly and easily adapt to changing, ambiguous situations.

To download FM 7-0, go to www.leavenworth. army.mil.

Security

From front page

During the holiday season, we need to give ourselves the gift that keeps on giving - information

It is time for all people with access to government computers to upgrade to Personal Responsibility 2.0. The earlier version is no longer supported and will not run on any machines connected to the Global Information Grid.

The training and information is out there, and there is more on the way.

We have seen that if you play dangerously and someone gets hurt, they take away your toys.

Armed conflicts throughout the ages have had days when no spear was thrown, no bullet fired, no missile launched. Even the Hundred Years War (Valois versus Plantagenet for the French throne - you remember) only had 80 or so years of actual fighting.

We should be so lucky. The fact is we are now embroiled in a conflict with no end, no ceasefires, no time outs. This war is not a shooting war in one of the world's hot spots. This unending struggle is in cyberspace and will be a raging conflict until the last circuit board is fried.

This crisis requires constant vigilance because the enemy, ranging from statesupported hackers to the kid in the coffee shop, is probing our defenses every nanosecond. They can reach us from every corner of the globe at any given moment. To many, that's a sobering thought. While some discount it as fear mongering, the daily news and reports from international cyberspace experts drive home the point - the war is ongoing with no end in sight.

Solid defenses against cyber attacks exist. Many of these defenses rely on strong and constantly adapting computer safety technologies. Unfortunately, the weakness in this defensive perimeter is usually human.

(Ed Beemer writes for the *Army Office of Information* Assurance & Compliance.)

patients may be responsible for copayments for care provided at other facilities.

Since there is no Emergency Room at KUSAHC, call 911 with any true emergency situations.

Open Season extended

Due to changes in coverage, OPM has extended the Benefits Open Season through January 2009.

Changes will apply to Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance and the Flexible Spending Account.

Any belated changes will be retroactive to Jan. 4, 2009, for FEHB and Jan. 1, 2009. for FEDVIP and FSA.

Any future coverage changes will be forwarded upon receipt.

For more information, call Teri Wright, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, 410-278-4331, or e-mail teri-wright@us.army.mil.

MLK commemorative breakfast

The APG Garrison will host a commemorative breakfast in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 7 to 9 a.m., Jan. 14, at Top of the Bay. Albert J. Williams, a Northeast Region school transition specialist, will be the guest speaker. Tickets cost \$8 per person, advance sales only, no sales at the door.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Elwood Veney, RDECOM, 410-436-4810.

Italian Specialty Meal Jan. 20

The Italian Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine

The standard meal rate of \$4.25 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilians, retirees and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$3.65 applies to spouses and other Family members of enlisted personnel in the ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The Italian Specialty Meal Menu includes: tortellini soup, spaghetti with meat sauce, assorted pizza, baked ziti with meatballs, chicken parmesan, vegetable lasagna, garlic roasted

Railroad

From page 3

a student at Harford Community College and believes studying model trains will help him in his future career.

"Now that I am away at school I get involved with the club when I am home on breaks. I like the whole aspect of managing trains,' he said. "I have always wanted to work with railroads as a career, and I have learned so much by being in this club. Learning about different kinds of trains has helped me narrow my interests."

Renard said another member of the club said that the club is informal. Membership is open to anyone whether they are active duty, retired or civilian.

"We are hoping that our club will grow. With BRAC [base realignment and closure] there will be more technically inclined people moving to the area and working on post," Renard said. "The club will give them a chance to meet new people

with similar interests.' For more information contact Renard at david.

renard@verizon.net.

potato wedges, Italian vegetable combo, deep fried eggplant, zesty rotini salad, Italian style pasta salad, assorted salad bar, toasted garlic bread, assorted desserts, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

D.A.R.E.® Dance program begins in January

All ages are welcome to participate in the D.A.R.E. Dance program, 4 to 5:15 p.m., Jan. 12, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21 and 22 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2752 to learn hip-hop, jazz and more. There will be eight dance sessions throughout a two week period.

Students need to be on time and be dressed to dance (sneakers and sweatpants, no jeans).

The final dance performance will be held 4:30 to 5 p.m., Jan. 23. Space is limited, sign up soon. Students should arrive for the D.A.R.E. dance 4 p.m. to prepare for the performance.

For more information or to get permission slips, stop by the Youth Center or call Angie Chronister, 410-278-9061.

Tax Center to hold opening ceremony Jan. 21

The Tax Center will officially open with a ribbon cutting ceremony 1:30 p.m., Jan. 21, at its new location, building 30, downstairs in Top of the Bay. Commanders or their designees are invited to preview the facility and talk with the Tax Center staff members.

The Installation Tax Assistance Program, directed by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division provides free tax preparation and electronic filing for qualifying active duty service members, retirees and Family members.

The Tax Center will open its doors to the public Jan. 22 and will close April 15. Hours of operation will be 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

WACVA meeting

Freestate Chapter 70 of the Women's Army Corp Veterans Association will not meet in January. The next meeting will be 11 a.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Center on Franklin Street Feb. 7. Community service events and fundraisers for 2009 will be discussed.

Meetings and membership in the chapter are open to women who have served or are serving in the armed forces – Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserves and National Guard.

For more information, contact Judy Fortier, 1st vice-president, 410-272-4115.

Veterans can salute during national anthem

According to a new federal law, veterans and active duty service members not in uniform can now render the military hand salute during the playing of the national anthem.

The bill was included in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 and signed into law on Oct. 14. This law expands on last year's law that allowed veterans and service members not in uniform to render the military hand salute during the raising, lowering and passing of the flag.

http://www1. (Source: va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1609)

BRAC Job Fair

CECOM LCMC and Army Team C4ISR will hold a BRAC Job Fair 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 7, at the Harford Community College Chesapeake Center, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air.

Post Shorts

Recruitment will be for government positions at Aberdeen Proving Ground including but not limited to budget analyst, computer scientist, contract specialist, engineer, logistics manager, management analyst, operations research analyst and accountant, program analyst and program manager.

Registration at www. **swnetwork.org** is required in order to attend.

For more information, call 410-939-4240.

CPR Classes

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services offer CPR classes on APG.

Two classes will be held 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month.

In the Edgewood Area, classes will be held at the Conference Center, building E-4810, Feb. 18, April 15, Aug. 26, Oct. 21 and Dec. 16.

In the Aberdeen Area, classes will be held at the Post Theater Jan. 21, March 18, May 20, July 15 and Nov. 18.

Class size will be limited to 30 participants and will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. Pre-registration is required.

For more information or to register, call Raymond Campbell, 410-306-0566, or e-mail raymond. b.campbell@us.army.mil.

Building 320 parking lot closed temporarily

The parking area in front of building 320 will be closed for an extended period of time for roof replacement. Roof replacement will be accomplished in phases.

The area will be cordoned off by yellow tape and traffic cones.

The parking area also will be closed on weekends due to scheduled power outages when required.

Office Eagle customers should beware during admittance to the store.

For more information, call Michael Hardwick, 410-306-2305.

Volunteers needed for Retiree Council

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Retiree Council is being revitalized. The purpose of the council is "to provide the commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground, installation commander, Fort George G. Meade, Md., and the U.S. Army an insight into the problems and issues expressed by retirees residing on APG and surrounding areas."

To help accomplish this, the APG Retiree Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the council. Interested parties should send an e-mail with contact information to: ricky.godbolt@ us.army.mil or jatraino@ aol.com.

CBRNIAC offers technical inquiry service

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Information Analysis Center, or CBRNIAC, provides a technical inquiry service.

The service offers up to four hours of technical analysis service at no cost to authorized users from Department of Defense agencies, other federal government agencies, DoD and federal contractors, state and local governments and emergency response organizations. The service covers the full range of CBRN defense and related homeland security topics.

To take advantage of CBRNIAC's Inquiry Service, complete the "Submit an Inquiry" form on its Web site, http://www.cbrniac.apgea.army.mil/info/ inquiry.php, or call James M. King, 410-676-9030.

Child care for military Families

The Military Fee Assistance Program has offpost, licensed child care for military or DoD Families assigned to Fort Meade, Fort Detrick, Walter Reed or Aberdeen Proving Ground. Child Care Military Services is a program of the Marvland Committee for Children, Inc.

For more information, call LOCATE: Child Care Military Services, 1-800-999-0120.

Main Exchange offers Buddy List

Customers can now sign up at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Main Exchange to be on a "Buddy List." Customers that sign up on this list will receive "Buddy Messages" via e-mail every Friday, alerting them of weekend sales and happenings in the store and online at www.affes.com.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www. apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)



Looking back on

ENVIRONMENT

• In January, DLES wildlife officers, the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment. biologists from the Center for Conservation Environment, William and Mary College, and representatives from the United States Fish & Wildlife Service begin trapping APG bald eagles for a monitoring project of the birds' nesting and migratory patterns. See APG News March 6, 2008.

• The first Vanpool starts up on APG in July. A group of Maryland National Guard workers from Weide Army Airfield formed the group assisted by Paul Josephson, U.S. Army Environmental Command environmental engineer and liaison with the Harford County Department of Community Services, which promotes ridesharing to save energy and the environment. The program also pays a subsidy to government employees who participate.



Photo by GEORGE "BART" ROBERTS, APG WILDLIFE & MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

Securing a hood over the eagle's eyes enables handler, Libby Mojica, biologist, College of William and Mary, to examine the overall health of the bald eagle (weight, wing measurements, talon measurements, general health, to include age). Placement of the transmitter does not interfere with the bird's every day activities.



Sgt. 1st Class Wayne Parker, left, Spc. Daniel Ramos, center, and Sgt. Mark Facteau, right, of the Maryland Army National Guard, pose at their Weide Army Airfield work site with the VPSI van they and three others commute to and from work in under the state and federally funded vanpool program. They have the first vanpooling group on Aberdeen Proving Ground.



Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

"Adventures in driving decision making" is brought to everyone by the Installation Safety Office.

Read the following scenario and then from the options provided, select the best answer. The correct response is printed upside down.

Situation #15

Imagine you are driving on an eight-lane divided highway at 60 mph. A short time ago you lit a cigarette (yeah, you're a smoker) and it suddenly falls from your hand and rolls under the seat. What should you do?

A. Continue to watch the road, but slow down and reach under the seat to recover the cigarette.

B. Safely move to the right of the highway, park and recover the cigarette.

gerous as letting the eigarette start a fire. recovered, there's no question about that, but to do it while driving would be as danroad, you're putting yourself in a dangerous situation. A lighted cigarette has to be recover the cigarette." Any time you do anything that takes your attention off the eration, did you? Of course, you "safely move to the right of the highway, park and Answer B. Good answer! You didn't even give the other choice serious consid-

driving. This is true of cigarettes, cell phones, maps, or anything. the right of the highway, park and recover the cigarette." Do not do it while you are to recover the cigarette because it could start a fire, but you should "safely move to from driving, you're putting yourself in a dangerous situation. You obviously have best choice. Any time you decide to do something that takes your attention away road, but slow down and reach under the seat to recover the cigarette" was not the what it would say, right? Okay, here goes. Your decision to "continue to watch the Answer A. You didn't really choose this one, did you? You just wanted to see



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Lezlee Brown, 11, glides down the new fire engine slide belonging to the Fire and Emergency Services Division during the Holiday Safety Open House at building 2200 Nov. 22.

Looking back on

- Starting in February, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic began Post Deployment Sup-
- port Group, meeting 4 to 5 p.m. every Wednesday for 12 weeks.
- KUSAHC announces improvements to its pharmacy Feb. 14 that includes the new REX, an automatic prescription refill machine that eliminates long lines at the main pharmacy window.
- KUSAHC launches a redesigned Web page Feb. 14, that is more patient-friendly allows for easier access to information and offers more services such as prescription refills, appointments and medical records requests.

KUSAHC Training Room named in honor of nurse



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Col. William Rice, former commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic admires an original oil painting by Kaziah Hancock, to go in the newly named Capt. Maria I. Ortiz Training Center during a dedication ceremony July 10. The ceremony honored Ortiz on the one year anniversary of her death. Ortiz was a former chief nurse of General Medicine at KUSHAC who was killed while serving in Iraq during a mortar attack in Baghdad's green zone July 10, 2007.

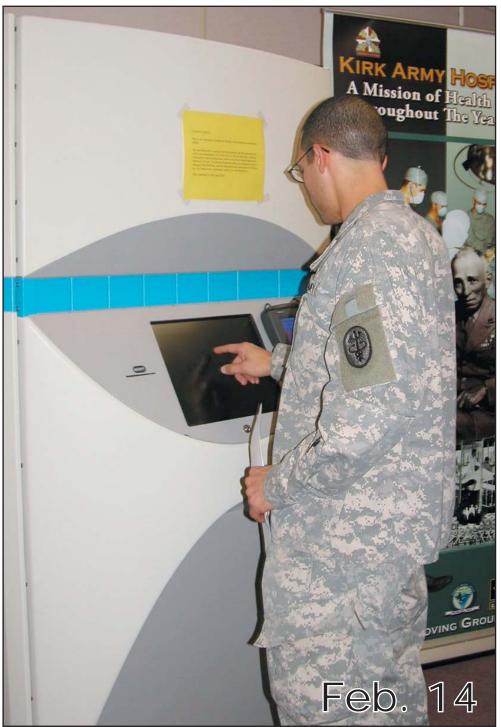


Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Army News

National Resource Directory helps Wounded Warriors

Story by **JAMIE FINDLATER** American Forces Press Service

A Web-based network of support for Wounded Warriors, veterans and their Families, as well as the Families of the fallen, has sprung from a collaborative effort by the departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs.

The National Resource Directory will include information on care coordinators, health care providers and support partners, Dr. Lynda Davis, deputy undersecretary of defense for Military Community and Family Policy, said during an "ASY Live" interview on **BlogTalkRadio.com**.

"Working with wounded ill and injured service members and their Families, there [are] many resources and individuals available to help them," Davis said. "We needed one source that can tell us where everyone in the country is who wants to help our Wounded Warriors and their Families."

The directory is part of a larger effort by the departments to improve Wounded Warrior care.

in the military hospital alone, service members received offers from 35 people for 38 types of support.

"While the Families did appreciate that, they also found it confusing," she said. "They didn't know who to call at the right time in the right place for the right service. The Family oftentimes becomes the primary caregiver 24/7/365, and that is extremely stressful, both physically and emotionally."

To help them navigate the system, service members and their Families are assigned a care coordinator who ensures the recovery team works together jointly and collaboratively. Each recovering service member has an individualized recovery plan with personal and professional goals.

Previously, Davis said, emphasis had been placed on recovery in the hospital. These plans focus more on what happens after they leave, she explained.

"Our challenge was to get people to not only survive, but to thrive in their new conditions

Davis said research showed that that will be facing them for the rest of their lives," she said. "We wanted to focus more on community reintegration, and to do that, we needed even more partners to be engaged.'

> To facilitate the coordination of these plans and ensure a smooth community reintegration, the directory is inter-linked to these personalized online plans to facilitate accessibility to available resources.

> "Say you are populating the plan and the service member is talking about returning to Aurora, Kansas, and needs housing adaptation and special tutoring for their autistic special needs child," Davis said. "You can go into the directory and contact both the governmental and nongovernmental organizations in and around Aurora and line up appointments and personnel to be of support way before the service member goes back to Aurora."

> Davis noted that while the federal government has a lot of benefits and services available to service members, it also is important to take state, coun

ty and locality benefits into consideration.

"If you are choosing where to relocate your Family, you may be interested to know that a certain township has a benefit for veterans," she said.

The relevance of information in the National Resource Directory goes far beyond solely wounded, illness, injury and recovery services, Davis said. Many of the sections are very useful to any service member and their Family, she noted.

"We have already had several other programs wanting to connect and use the directory, especially in the area of benefits and compensation," Davis said. "Here, you will find not only what's available through the DoD Disability Evaluation System and the VA disability compensation programs, but things like Social Security benefits, life insurance and video libraries. ... We have sections on how to file claims, on unemployment benefits and benefits for retirees."

In addition to the directory's Activity.)

Web site, http://www.nationalresourcedirectory.org, toll-free phone number, 800-342-9647, is available.

The Web site is expanding, Davis said, and visitors can suggest additional programs by clicking on "Suggest a Resource.'

Launched Nov. 17, the site already has received a lot of positive feedback, she said.

"We had a very enthusiastic response in San Diego when we started the site," Davis said. "We found that a lot of organizations feel the need for this, and they have been trying to develop one on their own. In fact, we were excited to find that there was a story of the directory being covered in the Netherlands.

"We have service members throughout the nation and around the world, and we hope that this directory can serve as a global tool for anyone supporting wounded service members and their Families," Davis said.

(Editor's note: Jamie Findlater works in the New Media directorate of the Defense Media

Warrior Care: Penn State, Army create 'inclusive' recreation training

ROB MCILVAINE Army News Service

"Inclusive Recreation for Wounded Warriors," a first-of-its-kind training program for military recreation managers, will begin in January at Penn State's main campus at University Park, Pa.

"The program will provide the knowledge, tools and resources recreation managers need to integrate active duty Wounded Warriors into their existing recreation programs," said Ruth Ann Jackson, executive director of Penn State Hospitality Leadership Institute and co-principal investigator of the project.

"This is huge, groundbreaking stuff," said Kortney Clemons, a former Army medic injured by an improvised explosive device while carrying a fellow Soldier to safety in Baghdad in February 2005.

Clemons, a 2008 graduate of Penn State with a degree in therapeutic recreation and a minor in Family studies, currently is in management training with the Paralympic Division of the U.S. Olympic Committee in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"Thanks to the training I received, I'm able to help other Wounded Warriors as they are discharged from military hospitals out into the real world. Inclusive training for recreation managers is crucial in helping Soldiers make that transition."

After losing his leg, Clemons spent nearly 10 months in rehabilitation at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, but never felt out of place because of all the other injured Soldiers at the hospital.

"When I attended classes at Penn State though, it was a big adjustment getting around with so many young adults who were not injured and didn't understand," Clemons said. "Inclusion recreation became a big issue and helped me get on with life."

Injured military personnel returning from Afghanistan and Iraq since 2001 now number more than 65,000. During previous wars, these men and women might have been discharged or retired. Current military policies permit wounded warriors to remain on active duty.

"The need for providing inclusive recreation services for active duty Wounded Warriors is more important now than ever before," said Tammy Buckley, instructor and certified therapeutic recreation specialist at Penn State University and co-principal investigator.

Prior to joining Penn State, Buckley worked in the areas of stroke, amputation and spinal cord injury. She was instrumental in developing spinal cord injury protocols for therapeutic recreation service delivery in medical rehabilitation while a clinical supervisor at the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, D.C.

In her role as project manager on Penn State training projects for the MWR Academy (http:// www.mwraonline.com/ FMWR staff on methods aboutus.asp), Buckley and her husband, Penn State instructor Ralph Smith, now retired, collaborated with the School of Hospitality Management and Outreach's Management Development Programs and Services to develop a customized four-day prototype course that was presented to the departments of Defense and of Veterans Affairs last autumn.

"Inclusive Training for Wounded Warriors" was greeted with enthusiastic welcome.

Mike DeRose, a recreation specialist at Fort McPherson, Ga., attended the prototype course. He noted how recreation staff at most garrisons are seeing Wounded Warriors return from the Army's areas of operations and the need to be prepared to provide recreation support to these Soldiers.

"Most recreation specialists don't have a background in therapeutic recreation, so this training will teach us how to include all of our returning Soldiers in our programs," DeRose said.

Aaron Goodman, director of outdoor recreation at Fort Campbell, Ky., stressed how Wounded Warrior recreation should not only be provided by the military but also by municipal programs and businesses that offer recreation programs and services in the community.

"We all have a shared interest in Wounded Warrior recreation since injured or retired service members not only live on base but also out in the community," he said. "Also, National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, once home, may not be near a military base, so it's imperative that their community recreation branch be prepared to offer adaptive options for inclusive recreation and specifically gear programs for them.'

Recreation programs improve the state of mind, health and general wellbeing of Wounded Warriors, he added.

"These programs allow individuals to have an outlet to share their experiences and emotions in a positive environment," Goodman said. "Families have the opportunity to share in an experience together, some for the first time. This creates a great opportunity for the Family to reconnect."

The overall purpose of the course is to train for integrating wounded active duty military personnel in existing FMWR programs and services through appropriate adaptations and modifications.

"For example," said Buckley, "military personnel with amputations may require different prosthetic feet to rock climb, stabilization straps to lift weights or flotation aids to swim. Those with post-traumatic stress disorder who experience adverse reactions to crowds and loud noises may need recreation activities structured in quieter settings."

The course, aimed at recreation personnel across all branches of service, will increase understanding of the characteristics of various physical and psychological conditions resulting from war. These conditions include PTSD, amputation, spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury.

"Additionally, course participants will learn how to modify activities, how to create accessible programs, and learn about recreationrelated adaptive and specially designed equipment that may facilitate full engagement in FMWR programs and services," Buckley said.

Penn State University is no stranger to adapting recreational programs.

"It might not seem feasible for Penn State's hilly campus, just beginning to get cold and windy, to have so many programs for people with disabilities, but as part of the prototype course, we took all the participants over to Ability Athletics to meet a coach who has trained some of the finest athletes with disabilities in the country,' Buckley said.

Teri Jordan, disability recreation programs coordinator at Penn State Ability Athletics, has been taking students with disabilities through the paces in wheelchair basketball, swimming programs, and weightlifting for people who use wheelchairs and those with other varying disabilities.

'We call it Ability Athletics because we don't want to focus on what you don't have, we want to focus on what you do have," Jordan said.

The move from coaching college track to Paralympic athletics has given Jordan the opportunity to utilize her biomechanics and adaptive physical education degree from the University of Kansas.

A world record holder the 10-mile run and a national record holder at 5.000 meters before coaching women's World Championship athletics teams in 1995 and 1999, Jordan has trained some of the finest athletes with disabilities in the country.

"I got distracted for twenty-three years coaching college track," she said, "but that led me to be a better coach for these athletes."

Her experience and accomplishments reflect the caliber of program she started at Penn State and the dedication she has toward enhancing the program in the future.

But "Inclusive Recreation for Wounded Warriors" is not just about physical disabilities.

Being able to recognize who is experiencing stigma or stereotyping which can be associated with physical or mental disabilities and including them their friends and family in the healthy pursuit of recreation is another aspect of the training.

Ralph Smith knows something about the stigma of war-related injury.

A Professor Emeritus and certified therapeutic recreation specialist, Smith specializes in inclusive programming for individuals with disabilities, attitudes toward disabilities and disability adjustment.

"This prototype and initial training is just scratching the surface of what needs to be done and how far we need to go," Smith said.

Medically retired from the U.S. Army because of combat wounds he received while serving with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam, Smith has an even longer experience of helping those with disabilities.

"My interest preceded my injury," explained Smith. "I enjoyed working with children with disabilities at summer camp while I attended college and decided to sign up for a master's program at the University of Illinois when the Army drafted me."

Besides earning his doctorate in therapeutic recreation at Penn State where he taught until his retirement this year, Smith also spent 30 years with the National Wheelchair Basketball Association and was inducted into its hall of fame in 1995.

"Further implications for inclusive programming rest with the forty percent [and rising] Operation Iraqi Freedom personnel who have or may acquire PTSD," Buckley said. "This coupled with the knowledge that the incidence of PTSD increases with the number of deployments highlights the need to pay particular attention to those returning personnel who may be exhibiting signs of PTSD.'

Given that PTSD sometimes goes unreported by returning personnel, the need for FMWR personnel to be able to recognize the signs of PTSD and respond appropriately is imperative.

Although this course at Penn State might be scratching the surface, it's already causing ripples throughout the recreation community.

"Following the Inclusive Recreation Training prototype course at Penn State," Goodman said, "I gained a better understanding of the entire picture on inclusive recreation. As a result, I'm working on developing a global communications network for military inclusive recreation so we can connect everyone on inclusive recreation programs for injured service members and their Families.

"We have many people out there doing great things for injured service members and their Families and many others who want to get involved. This network will give folks the chance to share programs and ideas, as well as help others start programs or answer questions," Goodman said.

Active participation in FMWR services can benefit the wounded warrior by promoting psychological health and wellness and increasing combat readiness. It also reduces incidents of suicide and

destructive behaviors associated with PTSD such as substance abuse and secondary problems, such as domestic violence, social isolation and depression.

"Many Wounded Warriors want to go back to enjoying the sport or activity they did before they were wounded and if this is not possible, then they try to explore possibilities that might be a good substitute," Buckley said.

This is where the recreational professional can also help out.

"Inclusive Training for Wounded Warriors" also complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and supports the president's commitment to provide premiere care to military personnel and veterans.

"Many FMWR recreation managers at military installations lacked the necessary training regarding disability and approaches to including Wounded Warriors in existing FMWR programs and services," Buckley said.

"Because FMWR professionals are in a unique position to assist with readjustment to community life on the installation, it's important they're able to recognize the unique needs of military personnel with war related injuries, and be able to take the initiative to assist Wounded Warriors with healthy reintegration into daily community and

Family life." "The Army has been very receptive and tremendous in working with us. Their willingness to partner with Penn State has made this a seamless partnership and can only benefit our Wounded Warriors, their Families and friends and the DOD," Jackson

These four-day classes are designed to train assistant managers, managers, recreation division chiefs and other support personnel in the FMWR Recreation arena.

Through a variety of small group work, guest speakers, instruction, assigned readings, multimedia and hands-on activities, students will learn how to successfully adapt, design and/or modify their recreation programs in order to promote greater inclusion and participation of Wounded Warriors.

Students will also develop an "Inclusion Action Plan" to implement upon return to their installations. (Editor's note: McIlvaine serves with FMWRC Public Affairs.)



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Talented APG performers win awards at DA level Tryouts for next APG Talent Show start January 15

YVONNE JOHNSON APG News

Four performers from Aberdeen Proving Ground who distinguished themselves during the installation's "Stars Are Made Here" competition in the spring, won awards again after their video-taped performances were forwarded to the Department of the Army's Festival of the Arts Competition.

In the Youth Talent Competitions, Samuel McPeak won first place in the Outstanding Vocal Soloist category. Samuel is the son of Lt. Col. Mary McPeak, 143rd Ordnance Battalion and Lt. Col. Bruce McPeak, 20th Support Command.

Second place in the same category went to Samuel Razo, the son of Maj. Manuel Razo, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

In the BOSS Variety Entertainment competition, Pfc. Thomeisha Carter, Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion won first place in the Spoken Word category and Pvt. Brittnee Rodriguez came in first for Female Soloist.

The two Soldiers are no longer stationed at APG. First place winners received an

In addition to the performers, Earlene Allen, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation senior programmer, won third place in the Outstanding Producer category for the "Stars Are Made Here" show.

Allen said that singers, dancers, instru-



Samuel McPeak, left, sings the Irish ballad 'Danny Boy' and Samuel Razo, right, sings the pop classic 'At This Moment' during the 2008 APG 'Stars Are Made Here' talent show. Videos of their performances brought the two youths first (McPeak) and second (Razo) place wins in the Youth Talent category of the Department of the Army's Festival of the Arts Competition.

mentalists, poets, comedians and other talented persons over 18 should try out for the next APG Talent Show.

"If you have a talent that entertains people, we have a place for you," she said.

Participants should know that performances will be videotaped and forwarded to the Department of the Army Entertainment staff, Allen added.

The videos are viewed by a panel of

entertainment professionals [Grammy's, Nashville Star and American Idol] and others to find a fit.

"Exposure, exposure, exposure, is what you get," Allen said, adding that monetary awards will be given to the top three winners

The next APG Talent Show will be held Feb. 21 at the Post Theater. Doors open 6 p.m.; show begins 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 for active duty military and \$7 non-military.

Tryouts will be held 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Edgewood Area Recreation Center Jan. 15; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Jan. 22; and 2 to 6 p.m. at the Post Theater, Feb. 7.

The event is open to individuals or groups. Contestants must be 18 or older.

Festival of the Arts winners

Samuel McPeak, who also sang the national anthem at Amateur Boxing Night last spring, said he's always loved to sing. The song "Danny Boy" is what won him the award.

He said his music instructor had him try several different songs before settling

"It's a good song for my range," he

His advice for other youths considering competition is to not think about the audience or their butterflies.

"Don't really think about the people out there," he said. "Just think about

Samuel Razo's mother, Diana, said that her son sang "At This Moment" for the APG talent show and also at the Worcester County Fair in August.

"In October he began taking voice lessons, and he loves it," she said. "He just loves singing and he wants to try out for American Idol once he's sixteen.

Activities/Events

Talent Show auditions

Auditions for the APG Talent Show will be held 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Jan. 15 at the Edgewood Area Recreation Center, building E-4140; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326; and 2 to 6 p.m., Feb. 7 at the Post Theater.

The TalentShow is open to the public; anyone who can sing, dance or play an instrument can audition. Individuals must be 18 or older to participate, individuals or groups.

The APG Talent Show will take place Feb. 21, at the Post Theater, 7 p.m. Doors open 6 p.m.

Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military and \$7 for non-military.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Registration, building 3326, 410 - 278 - 4011/4907 or visit Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210, 410-436-7134.

Amateur Boxing Night

The 16th and 143rd Ordnance battalions face off again in the 2009 Amateur Boxing Night March 7 at the Edgewood Area Hoyle Gymnasium, building E-4210. Doors open 5 p.m., the event begins at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military; \$10 for nonmilitary; and \$20 for ringside seats. Children under 6 are admitted free.

This event is open to the public.

Purchase tickets at Registration, **FMWR** building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210, 410-436-3375/7134.

Purchase Hippodrome Theater tickets online

To purchase advanced tickets for shows at the Hippodrome Theater, visit www.BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com/groupsales and enter the password "105MWRAPGMD" for available discounted tickets.

Tickets are offered for a limited time. Check the Web site frequently for prices, show times/dates, seat availability and offer expiration.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@ conus.army.mil.

Youth Sports Bowling League

The Youth Sports Bowling League is open to

all boys and girls ages 6 through 16 (age determinating date is Jan. 1).

The bowling program builds character while promoting integrity, hard work, quality Family time and good sportsmanship.

Youths will compete on bowling teams, 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Mondays beginning Jan. 12.

Cost to join is \$45 for six weeks.

Volunteer coaches are needed to make the program a success. To volunteer, call 410-306-2297.

Register at Central Registration, building 2752, Rodman Road or call 410-278-7571.

ACS hosts meeting of Family Information

Army Community Service hosts a Family Information Network meeting 6 to 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in building 2754. The next meeting is Jan. 13. This support group is designed to assist military members who have Family members with special needs. Its goals are to provide a supportive network as well as assist with community resources.

For more information, call 410-278-2420.

MWR daily bus trips to Atlantic City

Roll the bones on daily trips to Atlantic City, N.J. FMWR Leisure Travservice to Trump Taj Mahal Casino. Cost of the trip to is \$45 per person with \$25 back in cash and a \$5 buffet coupon. Only for ages 21 and

el Services offers daily bus

over. The bus will leave Vitali's Restaurant, Best Western in Edgewood at 9 a.m. and return at 9 p.m. For more information,

contact FMWR Leisure Travel Services, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail apgr-usag-mwrliesuretravel@conus.army.

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com. All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm or check out AAFES Jobs link http://odin.aafes.com/employment/ for additional job opportunities.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie. umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Toddler Art

Calling all young Picassos. Toddler Art lessons will be given 5:45 to 6:30 p.m., Thursdays, Jan. 15 through March 5, for ages 2 through 4 at Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Hands-on creativity is the theme as children explore paint, clay, color,

texture, and shapes. Dress little ones in old clothes or smock and be prepared for a messy good time. Parent participation required.

Cost is \$60 per student for eight weeks.

Drawing and sketching

Drawing and sketching classes will be held 7 to 8:30 p.m., Mondays and Thursdays, Jan. 12 through March 12, for ages 10 to 15 at Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522. No class on Jan. 19

Students will explore the concepts of value, proportion, perspective,

composition, and foreshortening in this drawing class. Class topics include materials used in drawing and sketching, memory drawing, contour drawing, grid drawing, tonal drawing and matting of completed works.

have an 11 inch x 14 inch drawing pad. Class costs \$120 per stu-

Students are required to

dent for eight weeks.

Private guitar lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 7 through 18 will be held 3:30 to 7 p.m., Tuesdays, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

An award-winning singer/songwriter will instruct students. No experience necessary.

Cost of the lessons is \$132per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for four weeks. Students must provide their own guitar and also are required to purchase books required for the course as recommended by the instructor.

Books are a one-time purchase. Parents can choose which time frame session they want to sign up for when they regis-

ter their child. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Brazilian Jujitsu

A Brazilian jujitsu program will be held at the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, building 4505, Suite C. Sessions will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 17 through March 19.

Beginner classes will be held 6 to 6:45 p.m., ages 7 to 18.

Through the practice of jujitsu and kickboxing, students will learn the best form of selfdefense, how to defend themselves against bigger, stronger and faster opponents and develop leadership and teamwork skills. All students will advance their skills no matter their gender, size or natural ability.

Cost is \$85 per student. Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members. Each session requires a minimum of six students registered. Registration ends one week prior to the start of class.

Army Reserve Teen Panel membership applications due

The Army Reserve Child, Youth and Applicant must have no scheduling School Services will select new panel members for the 2009 – 2011 term. Eligible applicants must be

- A Family member of the U.S. Army Reserve Soldier or civilian employee
- A citizen of the United States • A member in good standing in the
- military or civilian community • Currently enrolled in the 9th, 10th
- or 11th grade, 2008-2009 school term Able to serve for a two-year mem-
- bership term • Have a grade point average of "C" (or the equivalent grade point in a 4.0 grade point scale) or better in school, both during the application process and
- during their term as ARTP members • Involved regularly with Army Reserve Child, Youth and School Services, Family Programs Office and/or
- · Able to attend up to three meetings annually, possibly missing school.

other community organizations

conflicts that prohibit attending ARTP meeting (i.e., seasonal sports and other school activities which mandate attendance for more than two weeks)

Completed ARTP applications should be submitted to Barbara Freeman by email to Barbara.freeman@sercona.com or by fax to 770-968-8488, by Jan. 12. Applications must be submitted via email and signature page scanned and emailed or faxed.

Handwritten applications and recommendations will not be considered.

For more information or to apply, visit www.arfp.org/cys or http:// www.arfp.org/skins/ARFP/display. aspx?moduleid=2a285ab0-5db1-4f36-9b91-f2263c973c32&mode=use r&categoryid=1b8d725b-f419-448a-9feb-75a4fcd209a0&action=downlo ad resource&ObjectID=e6b378ad-932d-4524-b98d-53eec36c3714&Igno reTimeOut=true.

New arrivals required to attend **Newcomers' Orientation**

All newly arriving Soldiers and civilian employees are required to attend the APG Newcomers' Orientation, 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 11 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Sponsors are encouraged to bring their Family members, and all members of the APG community are welcome to attend.

More than 50 APG community activities and organization representatives will welcome arrivals with handouts and literature and will answer questions regarding their programs.

Each unit/activity is requested to report the number of attending personnel to Phyllis Ethridge, Army Community Service, building 2754, 410-278-9669/7572, fax 410-278-9685 or e-mail Phyllis.ethridge@us.army. mil.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials Building 2342

Week of Jan. 5

Special #1: Double bacon cheeseburger with french fries, cookie and soda for

Special #2: Lasagna with salad, garlic bread, cookie and soda for

Week of Jan. 12

Special #1: Ham and cheese wrap, potato chips, cookie and

Special #2: Turkey club, potato chips, cookie and soda for \$7.45.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Looking back on

- Michael Lupacchino takes over as director of the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. He comes to APG from Fort McCoy, Wis., where he also served as FMWR director.
- On May 8, Doug Farrington, a fire protection specialist with the APG Fire Department; Tim Richmond, a fire department paramedic; Brenda Saddler, an information technology specialist with the Directorate of Information Management and Karen Serra, a locksmith with the Directorate of Installation Operations are named the winners of the Losers are Winners contest sponsored by FMWR. The four-month contest that ran January through April promoted weight loss and adopting healthier lifestyles through diet and exercise.
- ACS conducts first sponsorship training for 68 APG civilians at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center May 14. The program was implemented to assist the estimated 2,000 employees moving to APG within the next three years due to base realignment and closure.
- Ruggles Golf Course displays its new irrigation pond and pump house Aug. 14 during completion of the project that will save the installation 100,000 gallons of potable water per day and approximately \$80 thousand a year.
- The APGArmy Lodging Program received the top prize in Army Lodging during an award ceremony at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, Ky., Aug. 26. Swan Creek was named the top lodging operation Army-wide, after winning first-place in the Lodging Operation of the Year, large category. It's the organization's third award, having won in 1998 and 2003. See APG News Sept. 18, 2008.
- Top of the Bay hosts first Holiday Arts and Crafts Show Dec. 4. Artists, crafters and vendors display hundreds of gift items and professional photographer Ben Michalski is featured in the "Meet the Artist" gallery in the club's Regimental Room. More than 30 vendors were on hand according to FMWR marketing.

from the city of Aberdeen.

ARMY COVENANT

- Communities rounding APG reaffirm a commitment to support the installation's Soldiers, civilians and Family members by signing the Army Community Covenant during the annual Military Appreciation Luncheon hosted by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee at Top of the Bay May 15.
- The Army announces its selection of Picerne Military Housing to develop the Community Development and Management Plan for APG as part of the Army's Residential Com-May 20.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON munities Initiative program Ruggles Golf Course have eliminated the need to purchase water



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

From left, Doug Farrington, Brenda Saddler, Tim Richmond, and Karen Serra (not pictured), winners of the 'Losers ARE Winners' contest, use elliptical trainers at the Aberdeen Area Fitness Center to help them reach their weight loss goals.



A new pump house, irrigation pond and newly-dug wells on Betty Scott, an information technology specialist with the Directorate of Information Management, left, and Marcia Geno of M.J. Jewelry, right, admire one of several bracelets Geno included in her display at the first Holiday Arts and Crafts Show Dec. 4.



Photo by SEAN KIEF, APG PHOTO LAB Representing the Army Family, Staff Sgt. Wendy Spohn, Lukas Spohn and Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Spohn, U.S. Army Materiel Command Band and the APG 2008 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, sign the Army Community Covenant May 15, 2008, while Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, looks on.



Photo by RUSSELTRACY

music.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON The 16th's Christopher Trusty, left, has his hands full of the 143rd's Joseph Lawyer, right, as he moves in for the kill. Lawyer went on to during Amateur Boxing Night at Hoyle Gym.

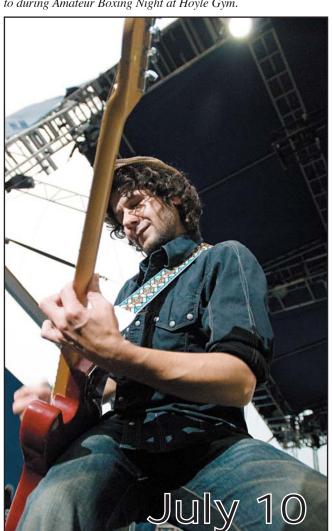


Photo by RUSSELTRACY

Christopher Thorn, guitarist for Blind Melon, rocks out to the

Community and APG: Partners in Education

Looking back on

EDUCATION & YOUTH

- On April 16, Dr. Carl Roberts, superintendent of Cecil County Public Schools signs the U.S. Army Secondary Education Transition Study's Memorandum of Agreement. The MOA is a commitment to develop or improve CCPS systems for transition predictability for military and military connected children.
- Fourteen scientist and engineer volunteers from Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations gather at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory April 16 through 18 to take part in the Materials World Module training, a new national program in "inquiry and design-based" education. The scientists and engineers were assigned to middle school science classes.
- Child and Youth Services Sports hosts 'Spring into Action,' a first-time event that featured field activities for all age groups and promoted health and nutrition awareness on the Aberdeen Youth Services athletic field April 19.
- Harford Community College hosts Technology Needs Teens; a new, one-day event held May 28, designed to promote awareness of the positive attributes of science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM education. The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development, and Engineering Center, U.S. Army Research Laboratory and the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center supported the event.
- The inaugural graduating class of 36 students from Aberdeen High School's Science and Mathematics Academy presents their Senior Capstone Projects to their peers, mentors and teachers during a gallery walk May 20, a week before graduation.
- Don Thomas, a retired NASA astronaut gives a first-hand account of space travel to children at the Edgewood Area Child Development and Youth centers July 17 and the Aberdeen Area centers Oct. 9. The purpose is to spark scientific curiosity in children.
- In September, the Army Child and Youth Services name is changed to Army Child, Youth and School Services. Re-naming this key Family and MWR program sends a clear message that there is a renewed focus at every level of the Army to support the schools serving Army children.
- Jenelle Ferguson, a safety and occupational health specialist from the Installation Safety Office, hosts "Jabbin' with Jenelle" Dec. 18 at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, for middle school and school-aged children. The monthly sessions began during summer camp programs at the Edgewood and Aberdeen Youth centers.
- Youths from the EA Youth Center participate in and earn ribbons during the 4-H Club Home Arts exhibit at the Harford County Farm Fair held July 31 through Aug. 3. It was the first time that APG youths participated in the fair, according to Norma Warwick, facility director, EA Youth Center.



Photo by MARY DOAK ECBC

ECBC Technical Director Rick Decker observes the "Chemical Reactions Sleuth" presentation as students from Aberdeen Middle School demonstrate what they learned during the Technology Needs Teens event May 28.



Photo by DR. ROBERT LIEB, ARL

Song Park, a computer engineer at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, and mentor at Bel Air Middle School under the Materials World Module, takes part in an activity during training at Aberdeen Proving Ground April 16 through 18.



Photo by NEAL SNYDER, USAEC

Maj. Gen. John A. Macdonald, the deputy commanding general of the Installation Management Command and the new commander of the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, gets a close-up view of the Army's commitment to excellence in education during a visit to Edgewood Elementary School as part of the U.S. Army Environmental Command's school partnership program. The general is dining with, from left, 4th graders, Ryan Braun, Darren Webster Jr., Thailand Lindsay and Jordan Goldrich



Photo by ROGERTEEL, USAOC&S

Vicky Puskarich, a guidance counselor from Brooke High School in Wellsburg, West Va., fires the .50 caliber machine gun at the EST 2000 during a visit April 8 with the 61st Ordnance Brigade, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, to see first hand how today's the AA Youth Center. Soldiers are being trained.



Photo by JAMIE REDDING

Andrea Redding, 8, maneuvers her way through the tire obstacle course during Spring into Action health and nutrition activities at

Commentary: Remembering a community partner

EILEEN CAMPBELL APG School Liaison

On behalf of Aberdeen Proving Ground Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and particularly Child Youth & School Services, I participated in the Celebration of the Life of Harford County Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Jacqueline Haas at the Aberdeen High School Jan. 7.

Short-lived of only 59 years, Haas was a valiant advocate for so many, but particularly that of the military child. One of the first in Maryland to sign the U.S. Army Secondary Education Transition Study Memorandum of Agreement in 2002, she began to work to build partnerships with APG. She worked side by side with former APG Garrison Commander Col. John T. Wright at the Department of Defense Conference on Education for Military-Connected Communities that took place in Atlanta, Ga., in November 2006.

She was easily approachable and made everyone feel comfortable.

Friendships aside, when a decision was

to be made, she never hesitated and was quick to support her actions with research or precedent.

She nominated the APG Army School Liaison Offices for the 2007 Harford County Office of County Executive

Good Neighbor Education / Youth Community Service Organization of the Year Award. She authorized the development of a Local Action Plan based on the SETS MOA, which recognizes an agreement that out-processing Soldiers easily obtain copies of their child's transcripts to relieve the transition into his/her new school. She promoted the Army Military Child Education Coalition's Student 2 Student Program by allowing coordination of Peer Helper training and S2S to be combined.

Haas met with Colonels Jeffrey Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and Bobby Towery, former commander, 61st Ordnance Brigade, and other Partners in Education members at Top of the Bay just last May to recognize the many efforts between the schools and APG.

At a recent Harford Business Round Table Meeting, she applauded our relationship again and since then has welcomed our scientists working together to achieve Maryland State Department of Education goals in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, or STEM, and to promote an improved workforce.

Her goals were progressive yet practical.

I will miss her easy demeanor, her smile and support of the APG community.



at APG, the county government and the school systems are partners now because we know that if we work together we can do a lot better things for students and parents of Edgewood and APG. This paper [MOA] tells how we will make things better." Former Chief of Ordnance and then commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Maj. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, signs a later MOA between OC&S and HCPS attesting to the success of the original agreement.

Garrison coat, outerwear drive a huge success

RACHEL PONDER

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison continued its tradition of giving back to the community by completing its fourth annual coat drive by collecting more than 210 coats and other outerwear from donations on post. The clothing was donated to Army Community Service Dec. 22.

The clothing will first go to needy Families on post and then whatever is remaining will go to aid those in the local communities around APG.

Maj. Mathieu Petraitis, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, said that he considers the coat outerwear drive to be very successful.

"I want to thank the Aberdeen Proving Ground community for making the clothing drive a success," Petraitis said. "We stopped counting after two hundred and ten coats."

Petraitis added that this year the drive was expanded to include outerwear.

"More than four hundred outerwear items

were donated including pullovers, shoes, boots, sweaters, gloves, scarves and hats for all sizes and ages," he said. "Even some toys and stuffed animals were given for the children.

"We spread the word about the coat and outerwear drive through e-mails, meetings and flyers," Petraitis said. "We set up drop off boxes at the PX, Recreation Center and Commissary in the Aberdeen Area and the Shoppette in the Edgewood Area. We also did a fair amount of house calls by personally picking up items at offices to make donating as easy as possible."

Petraitis said that he and the company are happy to be able to do whatever they can to give back to the community.

"On behalf of the garrison, I would like to thank all those who donated. Thank you for your generosity. It has been a tough year for people financially, so we realize it is a sacrifice for people to give up their coats and clothes. The success of the coat and outwear drive is really indicative of how cohesive and generous our installation is as a whole," Petraitis said.

'Oh Holy Night'



Photo courtesy of THE ABERDEEN AREA CHAPEL

Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim, deputy installation chaplain, delivers the evening message at the Aberdeen Area Chapel during the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service held Dec. 24, 2008. Nearly 300 people attended the event which included singing, music, the lighting of Advent and Christmas candles and ended with the benediction from Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jeffrey L. Zust, command chaplain, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

Letter to the

A Christmas blessing

Dear Editor:

I was able to spend part of Christmas day with one of our Soldiers.

My daughter and two friends of mine traveled to Aberdeen Proving Ground on Christmas day at noon time to join a young Soldier for Christmas dinner at the dining facility on post.

He met us in the parking lot and opened the building doors for us as we went inside. This impressed me from the start. I thought, "Someone has taught him manners."

Our Soldier is 18 years old, and this is the first year he was away from home for Christmas.

It was a tad awkward at first since none of us knew what to expect.

I wondered what our Soldier thought about strangers wanting to eat Christmas dinner with him. I decided to tell him that we just wanted to show our thanks for him being a Soldier.

He mentioned that when he was called in to be briefed about having dinner with us, he thought he was in trouble. He smiled.

Our Soldier was gracious and showed us the ropes of the facility. When we found our table, we bowed our heads as I said a prayer of thanksgiving.

Our Soldier explained to us what he wanted to do in the Army.

As we ate, he explained to us that he awoke each morning at 0400 hours [4 a.m. in civilian time]. He was able to sleep in until 0600 hours [6 a.m.] on Christmas Day.

He said the food was good at post and but he liked the hamburgers the best.

We each asked questions about certain aspects of being in the

I watched as pride shone in his eyes while he talked with us.

How young he is! I envisioned him in a foxhole next year, perhaps saying a prayer on Christmas day for his Family. Would he be warm enough? Would it be raining? Would he have to get up at 0400 hours, or would he have been up all night? What would he be thinking as he crouched down

in silence? Would he be hungry? Do they even make MREs with hamburgers?

I thought how lucky I am to be living in a country that I could sit in public and say a blessing - out loud - for our food. And it's because of Soldiers like our "Christmas Soldier" that made that freedom possible.

I decided that I have the choice of how to place my priorities. And I decided that perhaps the best thing I had done this Christmas season was to enrich my life by eating Christmas dinner with a Soldier.

If you truly want a blessing, I invite you to participate in the "Meal with a Soldier" program that will be in full force next year by the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the United States Army. I promise you that you will be the benefactor.

I thank all of our Soldiers for their service to this great nation of

And God bless you!

Mary Jane Jernigan Aberdeen AUSA President

Christmas food vouchers given to APG Soldiers

RACHEL PONDER

APG News

One hundred nineteen Christmas food vouchers worth \$25 each were given to Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers to help relieve some of the financial stress of the holiday.

APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez led the effort to ensure Soldiers identified by their chains of

command were not burdened financially by the holidays. Money was donated by Army Community Service, the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the United States Army, and a unit on post totalling \$3,075. ACS also gave

a toy for each child. Recipients were able to use the money to buy food products from the commissary.

Recipients were chosen based on need and if they were staying on post during the holiday.

Garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Sgt. Larry Tyson, who organized the distribution of the vouchers, said that the advantage about giving food vouchers opposed to food baskets is that the Soldiers can pick their own food.

"They know what they need," Tyson said. "And what their Family likes to eat."

Tyson added that this year, with the slow economy, the help was needed and greatly appreciated by the Soldiers.

He said that the food voucher program is just one way that HHC and organizations like ACS and AUSA show their appreciation for Soldiers and their Families.

"The Soldiers and their Families sacrifice everyday for us, so we wanted to give back to them," Tyson said.

Employee takes on ride of a lifetime U.S. Army engineer logs 1,500-mile solo bike quest

SARAH J. WEST U.S. Army Chemical Materials

U.S. Army Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project's employees continue their work disposing of chemical agent and orchestrating complex assessment and treatment missions. However, last summer they had another mission – each morning for three weeks, they congregated around a worn U.S. map to track Larry Friedman's solo 1,588-mile bicycle trek from southern Florida to Maryland.

At first glance, Friedman, logistics manager for NSCMP, does not incite thoughts of Lance Armstrong or exceptional feats of sportsmanship. He's quiet, sharing his office in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground with numerous files and a touring bike. The native Marylander started putting his University of Maryland degree in chemical engineering to work in 1993, at the newly formed NSCMP. Fifteen years later, Friedman continues to serve the project with major accomplishments under his belt, such as managing the destruction of the former binary chemical warfare production facility in Arkansas, and significant mobile chemical warfare disposal system development.

A proud father to daughter Rachel and doting husband to wife Sarah, Friedman was happy with his professional and personal achievements, but said he still felt a need for "something far enough



Photo courtesy of CMA

Logistics Manager for the U.S Army Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project, Larry Friedman, took the ride of a lifetime in the summer of 2008, completing a solo 1,588-mile bicycle trek from southern Florida to Maryland.

out of my comfort zone to intrigue me."

He then set out to do "something a little more than ordinary."

Some mid-life crises entail sports cars and hair dye, but at 51, Friedman decided to take a bike ride - a long one.

"I have always loved riding bicycles and am an advocate of the sport," Friedman said. "I love that it happens to be a way to move around and experience the outdoors, the

country and the world." With only a few day trips under his belt, Friedman set his sights on traveling from Tamarac, Fla., to Bel Air, Md., over 23 days - a total of 1,588 miles. That's the equivalent of biking from APG to Washington, D.C., every day for 23 days – not a simple task for someone whose daily routine includes hours of sitting at a desk or in meetings.

Besides getting over the fear of what could go wrong, Friedman said finding the time to complete the trek "seemed almost as daunting as the task itself."

"Planning the actual

trip, getting supplies, and even training were small matters by comparison," he added. "With Family and work, it was not such a simple matter as choosing a block of time to indulge my fancy."

Step one was working up the nerve to float the idea by his wife, who was 'remarkable in her support," especially since it bought her "the freedom to spend time (and money) in Las Vegas with some friends." Next, with plenty of vacation time saved up, he ran the idea by Larry Gottschalk, project manager for NSCMP, who supported the undertaking.

"The strength of NSC-MP's matrix support allows our employees flexibility while maintaining the integrity and response time of the mission," Gottschalk said. "Not to mention, we all wanted to see if Larry could actually pull it off!"

Friedman's engineering skills went into shipping his meticulously chosen bike and gear to his parents' home in Florida. He flew down two weeks later to his starting point and reassembled his bike. On June 16, after months of planning and a modest budget of \$1,800, Friedman 'grabbed a peach, a couple of [bottled] waters and pedaled off unceremoniously."

The first day alone he logged 93 miles, included busy, vehicle-biased roads and a ride across the "A1A high rise bridge over the Indian River on the metal grating when the rain, wind and lightning were at their combined worst."

Despite any tribulations, an optimistic Friedman remained thankful for this opportunity and awed by his untapped ability to tackle the physicality and mental test of the journey.

Each day brought new experiences and friendly people inspired by Friedman's gusto. Special encounters along the way included a fruit market owner, who was impressed by Friedman's adventure and offered what he could to help out by inviting him into his orange orchard to "pick as many as you need."

Friedman endured dozens of desolate miles

between milestone points before reaching "civilization."Locals always offered up sound advice such as the Family in the Georgia restaurant booth who relaved how "the woodsmen and hunters were reluctant to set ground camps in the woods on account of the rattlesnake population this year." Friedman remembers that was the moment "that pretty much made it final -- camping would remain on my list of things not to do." He shipped his camping gear home to lighten his load.

"It was always a kick for me to cross into the next state," he said. "I think state lines were psychological landmarks that instilled a sense of progress."

In all, Friedman navigated through six states and the metro confusion that is downtown Washington, D.C., completing 1,588 miles in 23 days, two of which were complete rest days. He arrived home to banners, balloons, crabs and the happy faces of his Family. Then, as unceremoniously as he started, Friedman returned to work the very next day.

As he stood in front of that U.S. map with the pushpin pressed firmly into his final destination back home, Friedman felt satisfied.

"Physically, I now know my body can handle the day after day demands of putting in the miles," he recalled. "Spiritually, it was a rewarding experience to be able to move such great distances under my own power and take in the sights and experiences."

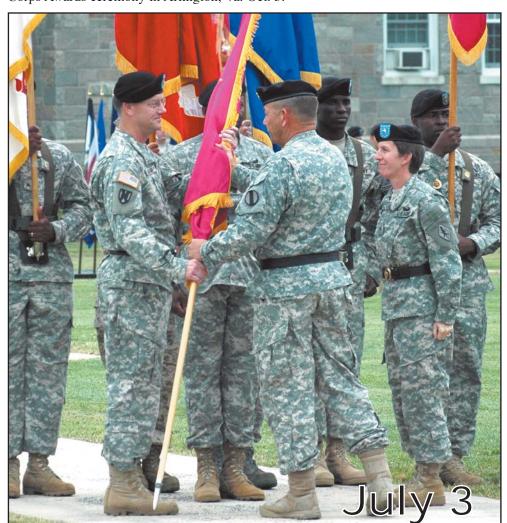
Looking back on

ORGANIZATIONS

- On April 4, the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center hosts a transition ceremony of VISION – Versatile Information System-Integrated On-Line – a key system in the Army test and evaluation community.
- The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense announces, April 24, the establishment of the Office of Consultative Services, an operation that provides expert analytical and consultative services to its growing national and international cus-
- On June 27, the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center unveils the Distributed Test Control Center, the command's new key facility for the control, observation, analysis and movement of information.
- The Civilian Human Resources Agency celebrates the opening of its new home in the former Russell Gym during a Dec. 10 ribbon cutting ceremony. The organization move was due to construction of the new Army Team C4ISR campus. Barbara Panther, CHRA director, hosted the event. Guests included Karl P. Schneider, assistant deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 and Tim McNamara, deputy to the APG Garrison commander.
- The Civilian Human Resource Agency Headquarters, located on Aberdeen Proving Ground, officially kicks off its newly formed Army Wounded Warrior recruitment cell during the 2008 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington D.C., Oct. 6 through 8. The Army Wounded Warrior recruitment cell was formed to help place Wounded Warriors in civilian jobs with the Department of the Army.

RECOGNITION

- William F. Armstrong, DLES special agent, Wildlife, Marine and Environment Division is named Maryland Wildlife Officer of the Year by the National Wild Turkey
- The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security names Wade Norbutas the APG Police Officer of the Year during a ceremony at the APG Emergency Services building Jan. 11.
- In February, Renee Main, school-age site supervisor for the Edgewood Area Youth Center and an amateur photographer has several of her photographs chosen to appear in the annual Harford County Emergency Public Information Calendar.
- The U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center is presented the Malcolm Baldridge National Quality Award April 23 during a ceremony at the White House after meeting with President Bush in the Oval Office. The award is the nation's highest honor for organizational innovation and performance excellence. ARDEC is a subordinate element of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Com-
- Col. Peter Nelson Fuller is promoted to brigadier general during a June 20 ceremony led by Gen. Benjamin A. Griffin, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command. Fuller is the deputy commanding general for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.
- Dr. Bruce H. Jones, a medical doctor and injury epidemiologist with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, is awarded the Joseph Lovell Award for his career-long injury research and leadership in public health and preventive medicine.
- Erika Weaver, an animal care technician with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, is awarded the first 2008 National Capital Area Branch of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science Technician Award by the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare.
- MRICD's Dr. Michael Adler is named associate editor of the new scientific print and Web periodical, the Botulinum Journal by Inderscience Publishers.
- Col. Jeffrey Snow, commander, 20th Support Command (CBRNE) is promoted to brigadier general during a ceremony at Top of the Bay Sept. 26.
- The Mine Resistant Ambush Protected, or MRAP, Automotive Team of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center wins the top Army acquisition award in the 'Equipping and Sustaining our Soldier's Systems' category during the 2008 U.S. Army Acquisition Corps Awards ceremony in Arlington, Va. Oct. 5.



Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, left, 35th chief of Ordnance, accepts the ordnance command colors from Lt. Gen. David P. Valcourt, deputy commanding general and chief of staff, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, as former chief Brig. Gen. Rebecca S. Halsted looks on. See APG News July 3.



Photo by NEAL SNYDER, USAEC

Col. Maria R. Gervais receives the U.S. Army Environmental Command colors from Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, commander of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, as Gervais assumes command of the USAEC during a change of command ceremony at McBride Field July 29.



Photo by SEAN KIEF, APG DOIM

RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Marin, center, holds the unit colors in preparation for the formal change of command ceremony. Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, left, assumed command from Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson, far right. Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, former commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, hosted the ceremony.

New leaders on APG in 2008

- command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison, from Maj. Octavious L. Gibbons during a change of command ceremony at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Jan. 25. See APG News Jan. 31, 2008.
- Conrad Whyne officially replaces Dale Ormond as the new director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency Jan. 25. With CMA for 24 years, Whyne has held the position as deputy director since April 2007. See APG News Feb. 7, 2008.
- Russell B. Hall begins his second stint as regional director for the U.S. Army Installation Management Command during a change of responsibility ceremony at Fort Monroe, Va., May 19. Hall is now the IMCOM-Northeast director, swapping positions with Diane M. Devens who headed to Germany to lead IMCOM-Europe. See APG News May 29, 2008.
- Lt. Col. Steve Cheng, assumes command of the 16th Ordnance Battalion during a June 6 change of command ceremony on APG's Fanshaw Field. See APG News June 12, 2008.
- · Col. Dan J. Reilly assumes command of the 61st Ordnance Brigade from outgoing commander Col. Bobby A. Towery during a June 19 change of command ceremony at Fanshaw Field. See APG News June 26, 2008.
- Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar becomes the 35th chief of ordnance during a change of command ceremony for the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools June 26. Collyar takes over from Brig. Gen. Rebecca S. Halstead, the first female graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point to become a general officer and the first female chief of ordnance. See APG News July 3, 2008.
- · Col. Jeffrey J. Snow assumes command of the 20th Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-yield Explosives) from Brig Gen. Kevin R. Wendel during a change of command ceremony at McBride Parade Field July 2. See APG News July 17, 2008.
- Lt. Col. Bobbi J. W. Davis replaces Lt. Col. Don Pollack as the APG Staff Judge Advocate. See APG News July
- Chief Warrant Officer 5 Arthur G. Dahl IV becomes the 6th Regimental Chief Warrant Officer of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, following retiring Chief Warrant Officer 5

- Maj. Mathieu Petraitus assumes Harold L. DeBerry, during a ceremony at the Ball Conference Center July 10. See APG News July 24, 2008.
 - Col. Harry F. Slife Jr. assumes command of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense at a change of command ceremony on the institute's lawn July 10. See APG News Aug. 28, 2008.
 - Lt. Col. James M. Nold becomes commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic taking over from Col. William A. Rice during a change of command ceremony on the clinic's front lawn July 11. See APG News July 31, 2008.
 - James B. Johnson assumes command of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command from Brig. Gen. Frank "Del" Turner in a change-of-responsibility ceremony July 15, in front of DTC headquarters. See APG News July 24, 2008.
 - Col. Terrell W. Blanchard assumes command of the 9th Area Medical Laboratory from Col. David W. Craft at McBride Parade Field July 15. See APG News July 24, 2008.
 - Michael Lupacchino becomes the new director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation in July. See APG News Aug. 7, 2008.
 - The APG chaplaincy conducts a stole ceremony at the Edgewood Area chapel July 27. Capt. James Lester, 61st Ordnance Brigade, assumed the duties of leading the Protestant services at the Edgewood Area Chapel. During the same ceremony, (Maj.) Young D. Kim became the deputy installation chaplain. See APG News Aug. 21, 2008.
 - Col. Maria R. Gervais becomes the sixteenth commander of the U.S. Army Environmental Command, taking over from Col. Michael P. O'Keefe during a July 29 ceremony at McBride Parade Field. See APG News Aug. 7, 2008.
 - Col. Thomas M. Logan takes command of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine from Brig. Gen. Michael B. Cates during an Oct. 3 ceremony at McBride Parade Field. See APG News Oct. 9,
 - Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo assumes command of U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command from Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr. at a change of command ceremony at the Maj. Gen. Warren D. Hodges National Guard Armory Dec. 5. As the senior mission commander at APG, Izzo also fills the installation's senior leadership role. See APG News Dec. 11, 2008.

Looking back on

- The first 'Pillars of a Godly Man Conference, held July 10 and 11, which aims to reinforce spiritual leadership principals in husbands and fathers, draws dozens of participants including ministers from around the community serving as facilitators. Former 16th Ordnance Battalion Chaplain (Maj.) R. Randall Thomas and the APG Gospel Service hosted the event.
- The APG Chapel hosts the first Strong Bonds Family Program, a three-day retreat designed to strengthen military marriages and Family relationships, July 30 through Aug. 1 at St. Michael's Harbour Inn Marina in St. Michael's, Md. Nine couples participate in the program which is led by Chaplain (Maj.) Fred Townsend, chaplain resource
- The Aberdeen Area Chapel Protestant Service observes its first themed-Sunday, honoring the U.S. Air Force Detachment 1, 361st Training Squadron during its Oct. 5 service. Begun by Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim, the congregation honors a post unit or organization the first Sunday of each month.

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

- The Aberdeen Proving Ground 2008 Combined Federal Campaign adds new fundraising efforts to the annual campaign with a Book Fair offering used, low-priced books and movies, with proceeds going to the overall campaign. The fair was held in Top of the Bay's Down Under room Nov. 13 through Dec. 12.
- The CFC also hosts a charity basketball game between Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion and Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center Nov. 19.
- A second game on Dec.12 at Hoyle Gym again pits the 16th against the 143rd. All proceeds from refreshment sales and contest fees go to the overall campaign.

EQUIPMENT

• The new Commissary Advanced Resale Transaction System, CARTS, a new hightech cash register system, is installed at the Post Commissary Jan. 31 along with five Self Check-out stations.

COMMUNITY PROJECT

 Officer Basic Course students from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Officer Leadership Course III donate Baby Bundles totaling \$1,600 in items and funds for babies, to Army Community Service April 2, for donation to 16th Ordnance Battalion Soldiers who have or are expecting babies.

APG NEWS FIRSTS

Outdoor Journal

- The APG Outdoor Journal, featuring wildlife commentary from William F. Armstrong, DLES special agent, Wildlife, Marine and Environment Division debuts in the March 27 issue of the APG News.
- The first Traffic Alert box, notifying motorists of ongoing construction affecting traffic flow, lane and street closures and gate operations appears for the first time on the APG News front page May 22.





• APG 2012 banner and logo appear for first time on the APG News front page June 19.

The banner was started by Rob Czajowski of Fort Monmouth, N.J. and completed by Diane Burrier, a senior computer graphic analyst and Sue Marsheck, a visual information specialist with the DOIM Multimedia/Visual Information Services Center.



• Joseph L. Davis, traffic officer with the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, presents his first monthly column, Traffic Safety; a commentary on traffic safety topics in the April 24 issue.



Panic on the highway!

• In the Oct. 30 issue, the Installation Safety Office debuts its weekly 'Adventures in driving decision making' column testing readers' knowledge of safe driving skills.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Command Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon, Jr. center, removes the stole symbolizing pastoral leadership of the Edgewood Chapel Protestant Service from Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim before placing it on Chaplain (Capt.) James Lester, 61st Ordnance Brigade, during an exchange in responsibility at the Edgewood Area Chapel July 27.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Spc. Luis Gutiérrez and Jackeline Ibónéz work on communication techniques during the Strong Bonds conference while Aida Rivera, Army Community Service Family advocacy program manager, observes their conversation and counsels the couple.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Terry Hopson, a Defense Commisary Agency cashier, right, scans items using CARTS, the new cash register system for customer, Jackie Berdanier, at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Commissary.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON Michael Graziano, CFC advisor, right, and interpreter Mary Silver, center, watch as Pvt. Alejandro Delossantos goes for a shot from mid-court during the half-time shooting challenge.

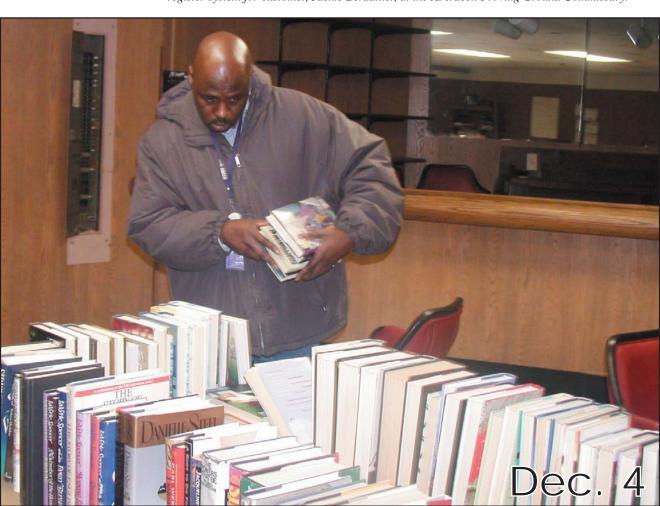


Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Earl Linwood Halsey Jr., contamination avoidance computer engineer from the Joint Program Management Nuclear Biological Chemical Contamination Avoidance, shops for books at the Combined Federal Campaign's first book and movie fair held at Aberdeen Proving Ground's CFC headquarters in the lower level of Top of the Bay. All proceeds from the book and movie fair was donated to Catholic Charities, which helps the homeless and needy.